Bengaluru Saturday, August 30, 2025 Pages 26 Vol 78 No 240 ₹8

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DH on Saturday

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P10

India, Japan to deepen trade, security ties

Move to counter Chinese aggression, Trump tariffs

ANIRBAN BHAUMIK
NEW DELHI, DHNS

India and Japan agreed to expand economic and security cooperation as Prime Minister Narendra Modi met his counterpart Shigeru Ishiba in Tokyo on Friday. In a subtle message to Beijing, ahead of his meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping on Sunday, Modi joined the Japanese leader in expressing "serious concerns" over the militarisation of the disputed features in the East China Sea and the South China Sea.

Modi and Ishiba have set a new target of 10 trillion yen or $68 billion investment from Japan to India in the next 10 years. The two sides signed an 'Implementing Arrangement', defining the terms and conditions for cooperation between the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) on the Chandrayaan 5 mission.

They also inked an MoU to advance cooperation in supply chain resilience for critical minerals, including through the development of processing technologies, joint investments for exploration and mining, and efforts for stockpiling.

"India and Japan are fully committed towards a free, open, peaceful, prosperous and rules-based Indo-Pacific," Modi said as he and Ishiba jointly addressed mediapersons after the meeting.

"We have shared concerns over terrorism and cybersecurity. We also have shared interests in the areas of defence and maritime security. We have jointly decided to further strengthen our cooperation in the fields of defence industry and Innovation," the Indian PM said.

"Japan and India are both responsible for maintaining and strengthening a free and open international order based on the rule of law," said Ishiba.

The comments made by the two PMs were apparently intended to send a message to China.

▸ Modi, Page 5

India, China must work together: Modi; Putin to visit India in Dec, Page 10

PM Narendra Modi with Japan PM Shigeru Ishiba in Tokyo on Friday. PTI

Areas of cooperation

A new target of 10 tn yen ($68 bn) Japanese investment in 10 yrs

- Isro, JAXA to cooperate on Chandrayaan 5
- Japan-India AI Cooperation Initiative
- Advance cooperation for critical minerals
- Next Generation Mobility Partnership

> We have shared concerns over terrorism and cybersecurity. We also have shared interests in the areas of defence and maritime security.
>
> **NARENDRA MODI,** PM

Patil holds talks on more flights to Japan

Karnataka Industries Minister M B Patil on Friday held discussions with Japan's Consul General in Bengaluru, Nakane Tsutomu, on launching direct flight services from Bengaluru to Osaka and Nagoya, two major industrial cities in Japan. Currently there is only a direct flight from Bengaluru to Tokyo.

UNDER A CLOUD

- Lease to Royal Orchid expired in 2022
- KSTDC says Royal Orchid was illegally subletting land
- Officials recommend rejecting renewal request
- KSTDC suggests inviting of bids for lease
- Government overlooks violations, orders renewal of lease at cheap rate
- Lease was calculated based on the rate for adjacent KGA, which is a sports body

Govt set to lose Rs 600 cr in B'luru lease deal

Hotel company gets prime land for 30 yrs at cheap rate

DH EXCLUSIVE

CHIRANJEEVI KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

The Karnataka government flouted the law while leasing out more than one lakh square feet of prime land in the heart of Bengaluru to a private firm at a throwaway price, which is likely to cause an estimated revenue loss of Rs 600 crore over 30 years, according to RTI documents and well-placed sources.

Documents obtained under the Right to Information Act show that the government brushed aside the red flags, including violation of agreement, raised by officials while renewing the lease of 2 acres and 19 guntas (1,07,593 sq ft), adjacent to the Karnataka Golf Association in Domlur, to Royal Orchid Hotels Ltd, which runs star hotels.

> The government will end up getting less than Rs 2 crore per year. Auctioning the land along with the hotel rooms would have helped it earn Rs 20-25 crore every year. In 30 years, the government will end up losing at least Rs 600 crore
>
> **A source**

The above-mentioned land, which houses Hotel Royal Orchid, was among the several parcels handed over by the government to the Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) to develop tourism infrastructure.

Originally, 4 acres and 32 guntas of land in Domlur was leased to Royal Orchids in 1992 at an annual rent of Rs 1.11 lakh per acre for 30 years. The lease expired on January 1, 2022, and the company sought to renew the agreement. Any possibility of renewal was subject to "mutually agreed terms", according to the agreement.

When the KSTDC officials examined the application for lease renewal, they were shocked to see that the lessee had blatantly violated the terms of the original lease and subletted 25 guntas (27,000 sq ft) to another private company, Golf View Homes, for a sum of Rs 23.5 lakh.

Subsequently, the then MD of KSTDC wrote to the government, seeking to reject the request for lease renewal.

▸ Lease loss, Page 3B

On the floors, before the camera rolls

A DH journalist watches the making of a crime drama and brings you a close-up

The SATURDAY STORY

It takes about three hours to watch a film, and just seconds for the audience to judge it. But for its makers, it is a labour of love that takes months, often years, of hard work.

In this week's *Saturday Story*, a *DH* journalist steps into the chaotic and exciting world of filmmaking. She visited the sets of a Kannada film being made in Mysuru. About 125 people across 10 departments toiled all day and night to capture just four minutes of footage.

Between retakes, one thing stood out: cinema's true grammar lies in its eye for detail. The crew sourced used cups from a tea stall to create an authentic tea stall ambience. An actor debated the exact shade of a bruise on his cheekbone. And why did the director fuss over an empty flower vase?

The journalist watched how, within minutes, a drab corner turned magically into a posh living room. And how, when a veteran action stalwart walked in to choreograph his stunts, the cast and crew fell into a hush.

Full story, Page 13

Amid US tariff tensions, Goyal says 'India will not appear weak'

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Reacting sharply to the imposition of high tariffs by the US, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Friday said India would not bow down and compromise its self-respect in trade negotiations.

"If any country wants to enter into a free trade agreement with us, we are always ready. But I believe that any form of discrimination affects the self-confidence and self-respect of India's 1.4 billion citizens. Keeping that in mind, we will neither bow down nor ever appear weak," the minister said.

Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal

Speaking at the curtain raiser of Bharat Buildcon, the minister said the government would provide all support to industry for managing trade-related stress.

Details on Page 11

GDP growth at 5-quarter high of 7.8%, beats forecast

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

India's economic growth rose to a five-quarter high of 7.8% in the April-June period, beating the Reserve Bank of India and other estimates, driven by a robust expansion in services and manufacturing sectors, according to the National Statistics Office (NSO) data released on Friday.

Services sector growth surged to 9.3% in the first quarter of the current financial year from 6.8% recorded in the corresponding period of the previous year. Manufacturing sector growth quickened to 7.7% while construction activities posted a year-on-year growth of 7.6% during the quarter under review.

The Q1 economic growth number is sharply higher than 6.5% expansion predicted by the RBI. Estimates by other institutions were even lower.

Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran expressed hope that the full financial year GDP growth is likely to be in the range of 6.3% to 6.8%, despite the tariff and other challenges.

"While there is some uncertainty due to tariff-related concerns, in general conversations are going on and we see some kind of a resolution in the not so distant future," he said.

Real GDP or GDP at constant (2011-12) price in Q1 was estimated at Rs 47.89 lakh crore, against Rs 44.42 lakh crore in the corresponding period of the previous year, registering a growth of 7.8%. Nominal GDP or GDP at current prices in Q1 of 2025-26 is estimated at Rs 86.05 lakh crore, against Rs 79.08 lakh crore in Q1 of 2024-25, showing a growth of 8.8%. The difference in real and nominal GDP number is because of inflation.

The GDP deflator, a proxy for capturing inflation at the economy level, stood at a 23-quarter low of 0.9% year-on-year during the quarter under review.

▸ GDP growth, Page 5

Rupee hits all-time low of 88.09, P11

> While there is some uncertainty due to tariff-related concerns, in general conversations are going on and we see some kind of a resolution in the not so distant future.
>
> **V Anantha Nageswaran**
> Chief Economic Adviser

Gold surges Rs 2,100 to hit new peak

Gold prices rallied Rs 2,100 to hit a fresh all-time high of Rs 1,03,670 per 10 grams in the national capital on Friday due to persistent buying by stockists and depreciation in rupee, according to the All India Sarafa Association. The precious metal of 99.9% purity had closed at Rs 1,01,570 per 10 grams on Thursday.

Should we build a wall like America: SC on illegal migrants

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Friday asked the Centre to clarify whether the use of a particular language is a presumption for being a foreigner and sought to know the standard operating procedures (SOPs) adopted in deporting illegal migrants, especially to Bangladesh.

The court also asked if the Centre wanted to build a border wall, like in the US, to prevent illegal immigrants from entering.

The court's observations came while hearing a plea claiming that Bengali-speaking migrant workers were being detained on suspicion of being Bangladeshi nationals.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for petitioner West Bengal Migrant Welfare Board, informed the apex court that a pregnant woman was forcibly pushed out of the country without determining whether she was a foreigner. Bhushan claimed the woman was pushed out merely on the apprehension that she spoke the Bengali language. He sought to know if people who speak Bengali can be declared Bangladeshi.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the Centre, said illegal immigrants know that they cannot enter India without following proper procedure.

▸ SOPs, Page 5

Will oust infiltrators: Shah, P9

Jain seers stand by Heggade

MANGALURU, DHNS: Amid the row over the 'mass burial' probe in Dharmasthala, heads of several Jain mutts on Friday met with D Veerendra Heggade, the hereditary administrator of the Manjunatha shrine in the temple town, and expressed solidarity with him. The seers raised the allegation of "smear campaign" against the temple.

Details on Page 4

Boy dies in cracker accident

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 15-year-old boy was killed and another remained critical after crackers were burst during the Ganesh Chaturthi idol immersion procession in Doddaballapur town on the outskirts of Bengaluru on Friday.

Details on Page 3A

5 killed in U'khand cloudbursts

LUCKNOW, DHNS: Five people were killed and many were injured while several others went missing in a spate of cloudbursts that hit Rudraprayag, Chamoli, Bageshwar and Tehri districts of Uttarakhand on late Thursday night. According to officials, several houses were buried under the debris.

Details on Page 9

TRADING BLOWS

BJP and Congress supporters clash during a protest against comments made against PM Narendra Modi during the 'Voter Adhikar Yatra', in Patna on Friday. PTI

GST rate rejig: Oppn states seek compensation

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Opposition-ruled states on Friday said the proposed GST rate rejig could result in a revenue loss of about Rs 1.5 crore to Rs 2 lakh crore and demanded compensation for the losses.

Finance ministers of eight states—Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and West Bengal—proposed a cess on sin and luxury goods above the proposed 40% GST to prevent revenue loss.

Karnataka Finance Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said each state is "expected to lose 15-20% from its current GST revenue."

Details on Page 8

Krishna Byre Gowda

MISMATCH

'308 teachers in 270 schools with no students'

RASHMI BELUR
BENGALURU, DHNS

The state government has appointed 308 teachers to 270 schools that have no students, according to the Union government's Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE+) report released for the academic year 2024-25.

Despite teacher shortage at some schools having high student enrolment, the government has retained 308 teachers at schools which have failed attract any students. However, compared to the previous year, the number of teachers deployed at 'no student' schools has reduced from 1,572 to 308. The number of schools with zero enrolment have also dropped from 1,078 to 270.

However, defending the deployment of teachers at schools with no students, officials from the School Education and Literacy department said, "This is basically to attract admissions and in keeping with the government's policy of not closing any schools. It is hoped that if we have teachers, then parents will consider sending their children."

There are also schools where the government is providing teachers to schools which have a single student, officials added.

No dropouts this year

Karnataka has seen no dropouts at the primary level this year against 2.0% last year, beating states like MP, Maharashtra, Telangana, Delhi and UP. However, at the secondary level, it has the second highest dropout rate with 18.30% for classes 9 and 10. "We have recommended universalisation of secondary education in SEP," said an academician who was part of the State Education Policy Commission.

"As there is a lack of access to schools due to geographical issues in some of regions, it is necessary for the government to appoint teachers at such schools. Also, since the government cannot abolish the post, it is possible that the post may have been allocated to particular schools during the survey though teachers may have been deputed elsewhere," opined V P Niranjanaradhya, Development Educationist.

According to the UDISE+ 2024-25 report, Karnataka has 7,349 schools with 2.23 lakh students but with a single teacher. Last year, there were over 7,821 single-teacher schools with an enrolment of 2,74,814 students.

Looking at the percentage of students strength (all management) 8.1% schools have admissions of less than 10 students and 11.7% have between 11 and 20 while 6% schools have a student strength above 500.

Karnataka has 74,859 schools with enrolment of 1,17,80,251.

DEAD IN THEIR TRACKS

CRORES spent, but FLYOVERS going nowhere

A view of the stalled construction work for the flyover linking Kenchanahalli Road with Mysuru Road, at the Rajarajeshwari Nagar Arch in Bengaluru on Thursday. The junction, already infamous for traffic congestion, now sees more traffic snarls due to the delayed construction work. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

BENGALURU, DHNS

Many flyover projects are in limbo, but that is not stopping us from planning more

Bengaluru's ever-expanding population needs infrastructure to match it. In an effort to improve traffic flow, which is identified as a significant issue in the city, various strategies and projects are being implemented, with major ones being flyovers. However, a lack of coherence, vision, and planning leaves these projects in a state of limbo, requiring years to complete.

The city's tryst with flyovers is not new. The famous case is the 'steel flyover' case, where a public interest litigation was filed by city-based Namma Bengaluru Foundation and other activists against the six-lane flyover planned by the BDA from Chalukya Circle to Hebbal, on procedural, environmental and tree-felling grounds. The Karnataka High Court and the National Green Tribunal issued interim stays and asked for detailed reports. This forced the government and the BDA to inform the High Court that they would not proceed with the project. The PILs were disposed of.

However, the city did not stop planning flyovers. With all problems related to coordination, payment and disputes, half-done flyovers leading to nowhere stand on roads, causing traffic jams.

A flyover near the metro station in Rajarajeshwari Nagar, which began in 2022, is an eyesore. The beautiful arch has been obscured by the pillars placed through it. The project now appears abandoned, with no progress, resulting in a traffic bottleneck. The delay in payments is supposed to be the reason for the project's stall, but citizens also suspect political foul play.

A crowdsourced list from Opencity.in/ Citizen Matters lists Kerekodi/Veerabhadranagar Flyover started in August 2020 as one more such flyover. A ramp has been pending for over a year, and work has come to a complete halt since July 2022, resulting in congestion. The halt was due to the BMRCL revealing its plans to expand the metro line on the stretch. This also shows the lack of coordination among various agencies that govern the city.

Opencity.in also lists the Dommasandra Flyover, constructed by Karnataka Rural Infrastructure Development Ltd. and stalled for 4.5 years, in its list. Another is the Katamnallur Gate Flyover being built by the National Highway Authority of India, but now stalled. Yelahanka-Doddaballapur Road Flyover, planned by the BBMP, is yet another project that is stalled, but is gaining momentum slowly.

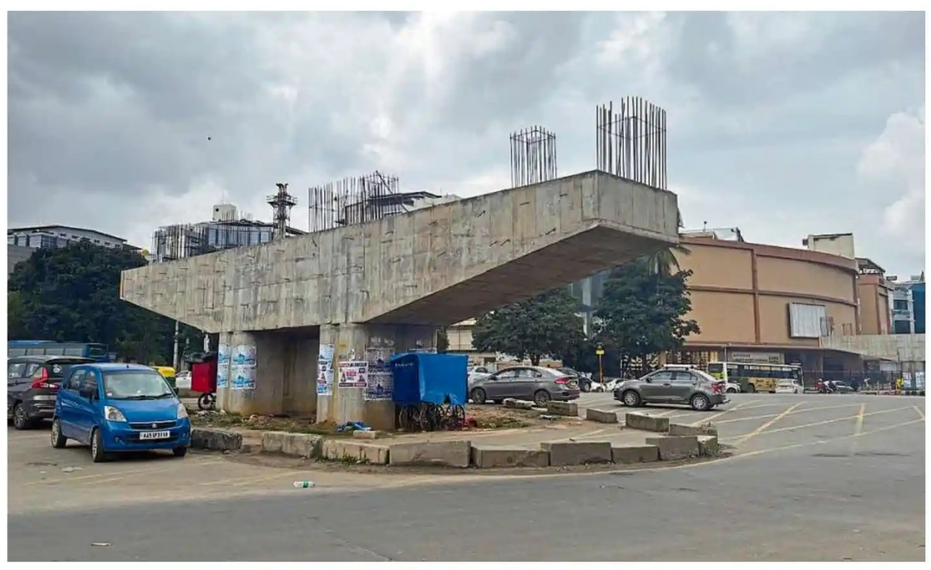
In the case of the Hebbal flyover, which is supposed to be in the shape of a clover leaf, PILs were filed seeking directions on the maintenance/safety. But the High Court did not entertain it as it felt the case was narrow, limited to a single flyover. The court wanted broader, more researched petitions. The flyover was upgraded with additional lanes and was recently inaugurated.

However, images released by citizens on social media show traffic jams and bottlenecks even in the new flyover. "Lack of planning and holistic vision to solve traffic is a major issue plaguing our administrations," says Arun R, a resident of R T Nagar who travels to his work through Hebbal flyover every day.

Traffic congestion near the Ejipura Flyover construction work in Bengaluru. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

Many plans for elevated roads

Corridor / Project	Distance	Estimated Cost	Status / Notes
BBMP's plan (12 elevated corridors)	**124.7 km**	**Rs 15,000 crore**	Feasibility stage, includes double-deckers and underpasses
17 Signal-free corridors (KR Puram – Goraguntepalya)	**100 km**	**Rs 12,000 crore**	Under tender planning, phased execution over four years
JP Nagar – Hebbal Double-Decker Corridor	**32.15 km**	**Rs 9,800 crore**	Namma Metro integration, the longest proposed flyover
Individual DPR corridors (KR Puram to Yeshwanthpur and more.)	**various**	**–NA-**	DPR invitations sent; in planning phase



Even as East Bengaluru is developing at a rapid pace, the public infrastructure is struggling to keep up. The long-pending Varthur flyover, being constructed by the Karnataka Rural Infrastructure Development Limited, is one such example. DH PHOTO/NAVEEN MENEZES

The Ejipura project

The Ejipura-Kendriya Seva Sadan flyover case is an example of a project that has been stalled for a considerable period. It has its history and activism associated with it, but the delay has been very long.

In 2012, traffic from Jayanagar and nearby areas slowed down traffic in the Koramangala area, while the road from Whitefield and Indiranagar, passing through residential areas in Koramangala, caused problems for the residents.

The BBMP had then planned a signal-free corridor from Sirsi Circle, near Lalbagh, to Agara Junction. Citizens objected to this, and the project was dropped. Later, the BBMP planned a 700-metre underpass connecting Forum Mall to Sarjapura Road, as part of the solution to traffic issues in Koramangala. This was also shelved after citizens objected, as they felt it would not help divert the traffic, and the BBMP could not justify its stance in court.

Later, resident welfare associations in Koramangala came together, conducted studies, and analysed the data. As a result, a proposal to link Ejipura and Kendirya Sevasadan was floated and approved.

"The project was supposed to start sometime in 2016, but it ran into many problems, Covid being one major issue. The contractor had to be changed in between. Now the project is on track and we will soon see the flyover," says Nitin Seshadri, a resident of Koramangala.

Land acquisition for the ramps was a hurdle for this project, which has now been solved. The 2.38 km road, which today costs Rs 176.11 crore, is Rs 48.02 crore more than the original estimate. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) announced in July that over 60% of the construction is now complete, and the 2.5-kilometre flyover is expected to be ready by March 2026. The completed corridor will help the smooth passage of traffic from the Inner Ring Road to Koramangala.

This is a flyover that is supported by the locals for the perceived utility it would bring. "To stop bottlenecks from forming, there has been a land acquisition proposal for a ramp near Hosur Road- Aiyappa Temple junction. It would cause a bottleneck only if a ramp cannot be built according to the plan. The longer the flyover, the fewer chances of traffic bottlenecks. Otherwise, a 2.38-km-long flyover would solve a lot of traffic issues," says Nitin Seshadri.

Many plans for elevated corridors

The city has grand plans for many more flyovers and elevated corridors. The BBMP's Comprehensive Traffic Plan, unveiled in January 2025, features a Rs 15,000 crore plan that includes over a dozen elevated corridors, along with double-deckers and underpasses spanning 124.7 km. An earlier feasibility study under the Comprehensive Bengaluru City Traffic Management Infrastructure Plan proposes 16 elevated corridors and two tunnels, collectively covering 124.7 km of elevated infrastructure and 46 km of tunnels.

Deputy CM D K Shivakumar announced the development of 17 elevated corridors across the city to convert 100 km of arterial roads into signal-free zones. A main stretch is from KR Puram to Goraguntepalya. The project is estimated to be worth Rs 12,000 crore and is expected to roll out over approximately four years, focusing on building 4–5 corridors annually.

In his March budget, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced that a 40.5 km double-decker flyover will be constructed alongside Namma Metro Phase 3, at a cost of Rs 8,916 crore. This will run from JP Nagar to Hebbal-Kempapura through Magadi Road and Peenya.

The main carriageway of the already planned 5.12 km long Ragigudda–Silk Board double-deck flyover is open for traffic, but the ramps are still under construction. As a result, the flyover is not utilised fully as of now, say citizens.

Even private players fancy flyovers; in some cases, the flyover itself is private. In July 2025, the BBMP approved the construction of a private flyover to a private tech park in Bellandur, which the builder would build. This sparked criticism from the public, who argued that the flyover should also be accessible to the general public.

Meanwhile, the plans for elevated corridors are taking off. In January, the BBMP invited tenders to construct elevated corridors between KR Puram – Yeshwantpur, Ragigudda – Thalaghattapura, Old Madras Road – Madiwala, Nagawara – Bagalur, Hennur – Bagalur, Tannery Road – Nagawara, West of Chord Road – Nandini Layout, Konanakunte Cross – Banashankari, and Link to Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) and Split flyover at MEI junction.

'Unaffordable eyesores'

"Elevated corridors and flyovers can be an eyesore. Additionally, they support only cars and private vehicles, as buses often need to travel through residential areas. As a result, public transport remains slow, while the elevated roads built using public money become exclusionary," says Vinay Baindur, a long-time resident of Bengaluru who has been observing the ill-planned infrastructure push the city has been getting.

"The city needs a big push for public transport. Pedestrian ways and non-motorised transport are the need of the hour. If the city keeps promoting private transport, we will never have enough flyovers," he adds.

"If the government is not able to pay for the corridors, they have to raise loans, which will be repaid using taxpayers' money. However, taxpayers do not actually receive the benefit, as these roads can be tolled or exclusionary," he remarks, asking why the public should pay for something they do not use.

Feedback: pointblank@ deccanherald.co.in

METRO

Health dept rejigs senior posts to boost transparency

AMULLYA SHIVASHANKAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

After transferring nearly 5,000 medical professionals, the Health and Family Welfare Department has now turned its focus to officials in senior administrative posts.

The transfers aim to bring transparency, curb corruption, and streamline the system. The department has 600 administrative positions.

For the first time, the contract period of now permanent employees will count towards their overall experience.

"The department is considering the contractual period so that the experience and work of officials do not go to waste, and to give them a boost," said a senior official.

This decision also meets the demand of the Karnataka Government Medical Officers Association, which sought recognition of contract service as experience.

The fine print

- Contract period counted towards experience
- Clinical experience mandatory for key posts
- Fixed tenure for each administrative role
- Greater Bengaluru officials to be transferred out of GBA

In another change, district surgeons and medical superintendents of major hospitals will be appointed only after 10 years of clinical experience. These roles will be on par with joint director posts. Previously, clinical experience was not considered.

Officials in administrative roles must now provide six hours of patient service every week to maintain their skills.

"If medical officials are in administrative posts for two-three years, they will be out of touch with their skills, hence, we made it compulsory for them to serve patients," said the official.

Tenure for all administrative positions is fixed at three years, and four years for deputy directors. After completion, transfers are mandatory to prevent lobbying.

Deputy Director posts will be assigned to specialists in relevant fields—for example, a Reproductive and Child Health Officer may be promoted as Deputy Director of the Maternal Health Department. Earlier, this criterion was not followed.

Administrative officials from the Greater Bengaluru Area (GBA) will not be reposted there, but moved to other parts of the state.

Allergy, respiratory infections rise sharply over the past week

AMULLYA SHIVASHANKAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

Doctors in the city have reported a sharp rise in allergies and respiratory infections over the past week due to windy weather and widespread civic constructions.

While allergies typically present with itchy eyes and runny nose, recent infections are more severe, with patients reporting fever, body pain and respiratory congestion.

"Windy weather carries pollen and dust over long distances, affecting more people," said Dr Nidhin Mohan, Specialist, Internal Medicine. He warned that untreated asthma triggered by allergies could be fatal.

Doctors identified children, the elderly, asthma patients, construction workers and those who commute daily by autorickshaws and two-wheelers as particularly vulnerable.

"Wearing masks and stepping out before 9 am or after 5 pm during low pollination hours helps sensitive people," said Dr Pragati Rao, Pulmonologist and Allergy Specialist.

Wearing masks and stepping out before 9 am or after 5 pm during low pollination hours helps sensitive people, says an allergy specialist. FILE PHOTO

She added that allergy profiling tests help identify triggers, while immunotherapy is being considered for younger patients with recurring allergies.

Currently, patients present with cough, throat dryness, itching, fever and body pain in severe cases.

General Physician Dr Kiran Raj advised vulnerable groups to gargle with salt water and stay well hydrated.

New landmark for culture and sustainability opens in city

BENGALURU, DHNS

Sthala, the newest addition to Bengaluru's heritage cowork and community space, will open on August 30 at Milkmen's Street in Ulsoor at 10.30 am.

Nestled in a 120-year-old Matha within one of the city's oldest temple complexes, Sthala blends history and modernity to create a hub for conservation, creativity, and collaboration.

What began as a coworking hub for people in climate and conservation has grown into a vibrant community space. Sthala houses a cafe, maker's studio, pottery studio, art gallery, native plant nursery, and serene courtyards for workshops and events.

"Sthala is more than just a space—it is a living community," says the team behind the initiative. "We want to bring together conservationists, artists, students, families, and makers under one roof, where they can learn, share, and create."

Visitors can expect first-hand activities, creative workshops, and conversations on conservation.

Sthala is set to become a landmark for Bengaluru's culture and sustainability movement.

For details, contact shantanu@reefwatchindia.org or call 91-7030463239.

Special trains from Bengaluru to Lucknow

BENGALURU, DHNS: The South Western Railway (SWR) will operate special trains connecting Bengaluru with various cities to decongest regular trains for Dasara, Deepavali and Chhath festivals:

Train number 06529 SMVT Bengaluru–Gomti Nagar (Lucknow) Weekly Express Special will run every Monday from August 25 to November 3.

It will leave SMVT Bengaluru at 7 pm and reach Gomti Nagar at 11.30 pm on Thursdays.

Train number 06530 Gomti Nagar–SMVT Bengaluru Weekly Express Special will run every Friday from August 29 to November 7.

It will leave Gomti Nagar at 12.20 am and arrive at SMVT Bengaluru at 8.15 am on Mondays.

Both trains will make 12 trips in each direction.

Hoax bomb threat sparks panic at gurdwara in East Bengaluru

BENGALURU, DHNS

A gurdwara in East Bengaluru received a bomb threat that the police later declared a hoax.

The incident occurred on August 24, but surfaced on Friday.

The Halasuru police registered a case under Section 66F (cyber terrorism) of the IT Act following a complaint by Rishi Pal Singh on behalf of Sri Guru Singh Sabha, the Sikh shrine, located in Halasuru.

As per the FIR, the gurdwara office received an email at 1.54 am from rajagiri_marudhayan@outlook. com, with the sender identifying himself as Raja Giri.

"De-Brahminize Dravidistan: 4 RDX IED Blasts in Your Gurudwara Langar/Washrooms Soon! Evacuate All Within 8 Hrs," the email read.

The police conducted a thorough search before declaring the threat a hoax. Investigation is underway to trace the culprits, officials said.

Habitual drunkard strangles wife to death; confesses to police

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Varthur police arrested a habitual drunkard for allegedly murdering his wife at their home in East Bengaluru, officials said on Friday.

The accused, Ravinder Singh, 34, a carpenter from Gorakhpur, lived in a rented house in Bommasandra with his wife Poonam Singh (30) and their two children, aged four and two.

The incident came to light on August 28 when Poonam's relative, Bijendra Singh, 40, found her body on a divan at Ravinder's house and alerted the police. Bijendra went there after he was alerted about the death by another relative.

Ravinder Singh

During questioning, Ravinder confessed to strangling his wife with a rope after an argument around 10 am.

"He was a habitual drunk and often fought with his wife. On the day of the incident, another quarrel led him to kill her," a police officer said.

Married in 2020, the couple had moved to Bengaluru for work.

Ravinder has been booked under Section 103 (murder) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Further probe is on.

DH
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THE HEALING TOUCH
AFFILIATED TO RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, BANGALORE
CALL FOR ADMISSION FOR FELLOWSHIP 2025-26
MINIMAL INVASIVE SURGERY (GYNAECOLOGY)
COURSE DURATION : 18 MONTHS
MINIMAL INVASIVE SURGERY (SURGICAL)
COURSE DURATION : 12 MONTHS
LEAD FACULTY :
DR. B.J. SHARATH CHANDRA MBBS, MS
FORMER PROF & HOD OF SURGERY, JSS MEDICAL COLLEGE
SENIOR GENERAL & LAPROSCOPIC SURGEON
DR. LEELAVATHI MBBS, MD
FORMER PROF & UNIT CHIEF, JSS MEDICAL COLLEGE
SENIOR OBSTETRICIAN & GYNECOLOGIST, LAPROSCOPIC SURGEON
DR. M.S PRASAD D.G.O, DNB (OBG)
SENIOR LAPROSCOPIC SURGEON (GYNECOLOGY)
FORMER ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JSS MEDICAL COLLEGE
• SSLC / 10TH Marks Card
• PUC / 12TH Class Marks Card
• MBBS Marks Card / MBBS Degree Certificate
• PG Marks Card / Certificate
• UG & PG Registration Certificate (MCI/STATE)
• INTERNSHIP Certificate
https://www.sigmahospital.in/
For More Details : sigmalifecare@gmail.com / +91 9945224633
P8/D, Thonachikoppal Road, Saraswathipuram, Mysuru – 570009

Kolkata train extended

BENGALURU, DHNS: The railways has extended the special train service linking Yeshwantpur and Santragachi (Kolkata).

Train 02863 Santragachi-Yeshwantpur Special will run on Thursdays. Train 02864 Yeshwantpur-Santragachi Special on Saturdays.

वित्तीय सेवाएं विभाग
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
Karnataka Bank Your Family Bank. Across India.
Shubh 101
3 MONTH
FINANCIAL INCLUSION SATURATION CAMPAIGN
1st July 2025 - 30th September 2025
At Least One Camp in Every GRAM PANCHAYAT
FACILITIES OFFERED IN CAMPS
Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
Opening PMJDY Zero balance Account
Atal Pension Yojana (APY)
Guaranteed monthly pension of Rs 1000/- to 5000/-
Prime Minister Jevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)
Life Insurance cover of Rs 2 Lakhs in case death due to any reason.
Prime Minister Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)
Accidental death benefit of Rs 2 Lakhs
Re verification of KYC/Nomination/Awareness about Digital Fraud and Cybercrime.
• Re-KYC for savings, Inactive accounts including PMJDY account.
• Ensure nomination, Secure your loved one□s future.
• Awareness about Digital fraud and DEAF accounts.
Please contact nearest Bank Branch / Visit Camp for more information
Join the Movement. Spread the Word. Be Insured
Visit the Camp in each Panchayat for Jansuraksha Schemes Enrollment, Account Opening, Re-KYC & prevention of frauds.
AVAIL THE BENEFITS

Dear Shareholders,

I am pleased to share your Company's annual performance highlights for the Financial Year 2024-25; a year marked by significant achievements and sustained production, reinforcing the Company's strategic role in India's defence and aerospace sector.

During the year, the Company achieved the prestigious **MAHARATNA** status, the first among Defence PSUs in recognition of its strong financial performance, R&D and strategic initiatives. This achievement would not have been possible without the strong commitment of our people, the trust of our esteemed customers, support from the government and backing of our shareholders. I, on behalf of the Board of Directors, sincerely thank each one of you for your invaluable contributions.

During FY 25, the global defence and aerospace industry faced several challenges in the supply chain due to geopolitical tensions. Despite these setbacks, Indian defence production grew at a faster pace during the year, fueled by the Government's 'Aatmanirbhar' initiatives, expanding India's global footprint and boosting economic growth.

The Indian defence industry is poised for a major shift in the coming years. The Government's thrust on strengthening the Indian defence ecosystem through new public-private partnerships, technological innovation and increased defence spending will boost indigenous defence manufacturing to a new high. India aims to reach ₹3 Lakh crore in defence production by 2029. As the largest Defence PSU in India, your Company is fully prepared and committed to supporting the expanding defence ecosystem to make India self-sufficient in this sector.

On the financial parameters, the Company recorded an all-time high turnover of Rs. 30,105 Crore for FY 2024-25 driven by consistent order execution and growing demand for indigenous defence platforms. The Company's operational resilience and agility led to a 7% growth from the previous year, despite disruptions in the supply chain. The Profit Before Tax for the year increased by 6% to Rs.10,820 Crore from Rs.10,199 Crore in the previous year. The Profit after Tax (PAT) increased by 10% to Rs.8,317 Crore from Rs.7,595 Crore in the previous year. As of March 2025, the order book position of the Company stood at a healthy Rs.1,89,302 Crore. The Company has received many new orders aggregating to Rs.1,25,280 Crore.

The Company paid an interim dividend of Rs.25/- per equity share of face value of Rs.5/- each for the FY 2024-25, totaling to Rs.1,672 Crore. Further, the Board of Directors of the Company has recommended a final dividend of Rs.15/- per share of Rs.5/- each for approval of shareholders, with a cash outflow of Rs.1,003 Crore. On approval of shareholders, the total cash outflow for payment of dividend for the FY 2024-25 would be Rs.2,675 Crore.

The Company made significant strides during FY 25:

- The Company's flagship product, Advanced Light Helicopter Dhruv's upgraded civil variant, received the Directorate of Civil Aviation (DGCA) certification. With this, the Company hopes to address the growing demand in the civil aviation space, an emerging opportunity in India.
- The Hindustan Turbo Trainer (HTT-40) aircraft received a Certification from the Centre for Military Airworthiness and Certification (CEMILAC) during Aero India-2025, marking a resounding success for HAL's design capabilities.
- The Company supplied structural assemblies to ISRO for its GSLV-F15 NVS-02 Mission. This Mission successfully placed the NVS-02 satellite into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit, for providing accurate Position, Velocity and Timing service to users in India.
- Indigenously developed Software Defined Radio (SDR), has been flight tested on ALH Dhruv.
- The first Gas Generator (GG-01) module for CE-20, Cryogenic engine was also delivered from the Integrated Cryogenic Manufacturing Facility (ICMF).

"FY 2024-25 was a year of remarkable achievement and momentum. HAL secured the prestigious Maharatna status, the first Defence PSU to do so, anchored by strong financials, robust R&D, and strategic foresight. Our growing order book and continuous strides in indigenous design and production reflect India's capability to stand tall in a highly strategic domain."

Dr. D. K. Sunil
Chairman and Managing Director

HAL A Maharatna CPSE

CMD's Speech at 62nd Annual General Meeting held on August 28, 2025

- Mistral-2 Missile Firing trial was successfully conducted on the Light Combat Helicopter (Prachand) at the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha.
- The first AL-31FP engine under the 240-engine contract was also handed over to the Indian Air Force ahead of schedule.
- The first Jaguar DARIN III Fixed Base Full Motion Simulator (FBFMS) has been commissioned.

Additionally, we have taken several initiatives to ensure growth:

- The Company signed a Manufacturing License Agreement (MLA) with GE for the production of Engines for LCA Mk 2 under Transfer of Technology (ToT) in India.
- The company also signed a long-term contract with Safran Aircraft Engines (SAE), for the export of ring forgings for LEAP engines.

The Company incurred Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) of Rs.2,026 Crore during FY 2024- 25 (PY Rs. 2,168 Crore). The investments were mainly towards the Green Field Helicopter project at Tumakuru, augmentation of facilities of LCA, ROH of SU-30, ROH of AL-31FP Engine etc. besides the regular replacement and rationalisation of the existing facilities.

In line with its strategic goals, the Company has a robust CAPEX plan for the next five years, with an estimated outlay of ₹14,000 to ₹15,000 Crore. This investment will focus on expanding manufacturing capacities and setting up Repair and Overhaul (ROH) facilities for various platforms including development of manufacturing infrastructure for the LCA Mk2, GE-414 engines, and Indian Multi Role Helicopter (IMRH) engines, along with facilities to support Design and Development (D&D) activities for the IMRH, Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), and other related projects.

The Company has incurred Rs.2,482 Crore on R&D during FY 2024-25, which is 8.25 % of the turnover. The Company also transferred a sum of Rs.922 Crore to R&D reserve for contribution to R&D corpus.

The future of the Indian aerospace industry is promising. The integration of advanced technologies such as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Predictive Maintenance, Cybersecurity, Additive manufacturing and the Internet of Military Things (IoMT) is set to revolutionise the industry, enhancing operational capabilities and safety.

Your Company has taken 86 projects towards the implementation of Industry 4.0 and Quality 4.0 initiatives aimed at digitalisation of manufacturing technologies and the integration of physical and digital domains across various areas. The Company has driven IT transformation by implementing an information accessibility framework to accelerate the decision-making process. The Company is leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) in selected aspects of defence systems development to reduce pilot workload, enhance situation awareness, safety and fleet availability for fixed-wing and rotary-wing platforms.

HAL is driving self-reliance through the indigenous development of mission-critical systems. This includes advanced avionics like Smart Multi-Function Displays (SMFD), Software Defined Radio (SDR), Automatic Flight Control Systems (AFCS), and Mission Computers, along with engine development programmes such as the Hindustan Turbo Fan Engine-25 for trainers, Hindustan Turbo Shaft Engine-1200 for helicopters, and small gas turbines for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. The Combat Air Teaming System (CATS), featuring manned-unmanned teaming platforms like the CATS Warrior (loyal wingman), represents HAL's foray into next-generation aerial warfare.

Indigenous projects like Light Combat Aircraft Mk1A, ALH, Light Combat Helicopter Prachand, Light Utility Helicopter and HTT-40 will continue to be the main revenue source of the company. The futuristic projects like LCA Mk 2, AMCA, IMRH, Twin Engine Deck Based Fighter (TEDBF) etc. will ensure technological lead of the company in the years to come and keep our production lines busy during the next decade.

We will continue to support Start-up Companies, SMEs/ MSMEs, Tier-II and Tier-III vendors to achieve self-reliance "Aatmanirbharta" in aerospace and defence. During the FY 2024-25, HAL has placed Purchase Order for Rs. 2,593 Crore on 2,436 MSME Vendors, an increase of 21.50% over the previous year.

We are strengthening our footprint in exports by supplying aircraft like H-228 to Guyana, Do-228 to Seychelles and Mauritius, helicopters to Nepal, Maldives, Mauritius, Suriname and Namibia. The Company has exported Ring Forgings of super alloys to UK and USA, Su-30 avionics to Malaysia.

The Company is committed to its social responsibility and has implemented various CSR projects to integrate the social and business goals sustainably in line with Schedule VII of the Companies Act, 2013. During the year, the Company has spent Rs.167 Crore against the CSR budget of Rs.144 Crore in the thematic areas of education, health care, sports, skill development, rural development, livelihood enhancement etc. About 10% of the total expenditure was spent in Aspirational Districts benefitting rural and tribal communities. The Company has sanctioned a major project viz. construction of a High-Performance Sports Science Centre at the Sports Authority of India, Bengaluru, which will go a long way in enabling India to increase its medal tally significantly in the Olympics and other international events. Other projects include Project Vidushi which aims at improving the infrastructure of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas that are located near HAL Divisions, providing state-of-the-art high value medical equipment to Government Hospitals, construction of Government School Buildings and upgradation of infrastructure of Government ITI's etc.

HAL is actively shaping its role in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) initiatives focusing on integrating sustainability into its core business. During the year, 1.5MW of renewable energy was commissioned by the Company and the cumulative capacity installed is 35.35 MW. The Company has also installed 14.70 MW capacity wind power plants in Karnataka. The Company met 37% of its electricity requirement from renewable energy sources.

Our HR commitment to developing technologically advanced and globally competitive talent remains at the core of our strategy. With a robust workforce where over 50% possess a decade of aerospace expertise, we continue to prioritise our people as our greatest asset. Through decisive actions in 2024-25 we continued to build a high-performing, growth-oriented workforce. Through structured and targeted training and development programmes, the existing leadership pipeline was strengthened across levels. Our Leadership Development Programme (LDP) in partnership with IIM-Ahmedabad and Aerospace Valley -France, with six batches successfully completed so far, aims at providing leadership pipeline for the future. Our Skill Development initiatives included partnerships with CMTI for Advanced Manufacturing Technology and Industry 4.0/5.0 programmes, thereby creating a future-ready workforce.

Recognition and development remained paramount through structured reward schemes, celebrating exemplary performance, and by establishing sabbatical programs enabling self-development. Our inclusive approach was reinforced by granting special leave provisions for employees under Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PWBD) category while our industry leadership was demonstrated through hand-holding support extended to other new DPSUs through workshops. Employee welfare continued to be strengthened with enhanced pension contributions from 7% to 10% for workmen and the introduction of a National Pension Scheme providing greater financial flexibility. These targeted measures have strengthened employee engagement and retention.

Your Company always strives to conduct the business with integrity, in an ethical and transparent manner to attain the highest standard of Corporate Governance practice in the letter & spirit by framing & implementing various policies & procedures mandated under the Companies Act and SEBI (LODR) Regulations, DPE Guidelines, Public Procurement Policy, CVC Guidelines, MoD directives issued from time to time. The Company has established systems and procedures to ensure that its Board of Directors is well informed about the policies of the company, to enable them to discharge their responsibilities and to enhance the overall value of all stakeholders. Your company has been continuously rated 'Excellent' grade for the past 23 years with respect to MoU signed with Department of Public Enterprises.

I take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to the Department of Defence Production, Defence Acquisition Council, Defence Finance, Department of Civil Aviation and our valuable customers viz., the Indian Air Force, Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard, Border Security Force, ISRO, other Global Aviation Companies and private industry.

I thank DGAQA, CEMILAC, Principal Controller of Defence Accounts, Principal Director of Commercial Audit, C&AG, Auditors, Bankers, Legal Advisors, Collaborators, Suppliers, Shareholders and other Agencies and acknowledge their contributions to the Company's achievements.

I am grateful, once again, to the members of the Board for their valuable guidance and acknowledge the immense contribution and dedication of the employees at all levels.

JAI HIND

Place : Bengaluru
Date : August 28, 2025

(Dr. D. K. Sunil)
Chairman and Managing Director

Note: This does not purport to be a record of proceeding of Annual General Meeting.

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited 15/1, Cubbon Road, Bangaluru – 560 001, Karnataka.

www.hal-india.co.in @HALHQBLR

BBMP designates 10 zonal offices as GBA beckons

GBA will function as the apex body, co-ordinating across the 5 corporations

BENGALURU, DHNS

The BBMP's head office at Hudson Circle.
DH PHOTO/MS MANJUNATH

With the Greater Bengaluru Governance Act set to kick in on September 2, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has finalised office spaces for the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) and the 10 zonal offices that will report to the newly carved five corporations.

In an order issued on Friday, the BBMP said Annexe 1 and Annexe 2 buildings at its Hudson Circle head office will house the GBA, headed by the Chief Minister. The authority will function as the apex body, co-ordinating across the five corporations.

The BBMP stressed that the identified zonal offices are a temporary arrangement until the corporations move into permanent premises. Each corporation will have two zonal offices.

The 10 zonal offices are: Bengaluru Central–East zonal office and BBMP head office Annexe 3; Bengaluru East–Mahadevapura zonal office and KR Puram Chief Engineer's office; Bengaluru West–RR Nagar zonal office and Palike Soudha, Chandra Layout; Bengaluru North–Yelahanka and Dasarahalli zonal offices; Bengaluru South–South zonal office, Jayanagar and Bommanahalli zonal office.

Each corporation will be helmed by an IAS officer who is not less than secretary rank, who will sit in one of the zonal offices. The top official will be supported by a special commissioner, joint commissioner, and assistant commissioners. Two chief engineers in every corporation will cover not only roads, but also lakes and storm water drains.

In essence, the corporations will handle maintenance, while the GBA will oversee development works.

Teen killed, boy critical in cracker explosion during Ganesha procession

Five others injured in mishap at Doddaballapur

PRAJWAL D'SOUZA
BENGALURU, DHNS

A 15-year-old boy was killed and six others injured after firecrackers went off during a Ganesh Chaturthi idol immersion procession in Doddaballapur town on the outskirts of Bengaluru on Friday evening.

The deceased was identified as Muni alias Dhanush (15). Another boy, Yogesh, 15, is critical and undergoing treatment at Ramaiah Hospital. The accident occurred between 5.45 pm and 6 pm in Muttur village.

The police said the idol was mounted on a forklift surrounded by a large crowd, including children. Crackers — mainly a multi-shot box — had been placed near the vehicle's silencer.

"It is unclear if the explosion was triggered by heat or a spark from the silencer. The matter is under investigation," an officer stated.

Bengaluru Rural SP CK Baba (C) and other officials at the accident spot in Doddaballapur town. BENGALURU RURAL POLICE

When the box was lit, rockets shot into the crowd. One hit Muni in the ribs, killing him instantly. Police constable Zakir Hussain, on duty near the forklift, was injured when a cracker tore flesh from his arm. He is safe and will undergo surgery, officials said.

The other injured include two children aged 13 and 16, forklift driver Muniraju, 27, and bystander Nagaraj, 35. All are out of danger.

Bengaluru Rural SP CK Baba visited the spot and hospital.

A case has been filed against event organiser Maruthi and others under sections 105 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) and 125A (endangering life or safety) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, along with other provisions. Arrests are expected, the police said.

Firecracker ban under consideration: SP

Bengaluru Rural SP CK Baba told *DH*: "The district administration is considering banning the use of firecrackers during the immersion procession.

"This incident, where an innocent life was lost and a brave policeman was among the injured, is a reminder that safety must never be sacrificed for festivities or celebrations."

73,959 idols immersed

BENGALURU, DHNS: Over 73,959 Ganesha idols were immersed across Bengaluru on Thursday, as per data shared by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

This is in addition to 2.19 lakh idols immersed on the first day of Ganesh Chaturthi.

The civic body had deployed mobile tankers and set up permanent and temporary tanks in lake premises for immersions.

BBMP workers immerse a Ganesha idol in Ulsoor Lake on Friday. DH PHOTO/MS MANJUNATH

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

Third Anniversary Celebration: President AVS Murthy; Guest Kailash Satyarthi; Organised by RV University; Mangala Mantapa, NMKRV College, Jayanagar 3rd Block; 9.30 am.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India: State-level conference; Dinesh Gundu Rao, Charanjot Singh Nanda, BP Rao, K Raghu to attend; Princess Shrine, Palace Grounds; 10 am onwards.

Karnataka State Bar Council Office Bearers' Oath-taking Ceremony: Kiren Rijiju to inaugurate; Siddaramaiah, DK Shivakumar, HK Patil, Manan Kumar Mishra, Tejasvi Surya, BY Vijayendra, Aravind Kamath, Shashikiran Shetty, Sadashiva Reddy YR, SS Mittalkod to attend; Banquet Hall, Vidhana Soudha; 10 am.

Police Medal Award Ceremony: Thaawarchand Gehlot; Siddaramaiah; G Parameshwara to attend; Organised by Police Department; Raj Bhavan; 11 am.

'Life with Needle and Thread': Exhibition on Garment Work and Unionisation; Organised by Garment & Textile Workers' Union; D Devaraj Urs Hall, Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Kumarakrupa Road; 3 pm onwards.

GANESHOTSAVA

Bhakti songs: Padmini L Oka & troupe; Bangalore Advocates' Association; Advocates' Association, High Court Unit Hall-1; 1.30 pm.

Music Concert: Gurukiran & troupe; Swastik Yuvakara Sangha, 5th Main Road, Milk Colony, Rajajinagar 2nd Stage; 7.30 pm.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	27.0 C
Minimum	20.0°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	016.1
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	90%
Sunset (Aug 30)	6:33 pm
Sunrise (Aug 31)	6:09 am
Moonrise	10:49 am
Moonset	10:28 pm

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

After *DH* report, revenue dept reclaims waterbody in Harlur

BENGALURU, DHNS

A day after *DH* reported on the encroachment of a waterbody in Harlur, located in a fast-developing area in East Bengaluru, the Revenue Department reclaimed the government property on Friday by installing a board.

The board stated that the entire one acre and three gunte is a waterbody (kunte) and that trespassing is prohibited.

The action followed a *DH* report exposing the encroachment, where people had been flattening the area by dumping debris for six months. There were claims a builder was attempting to grab the land for construction.

The land lies in Survey Number 24 of Ambalipura village, Varthur Hobli. Revenue records show it is government land and marked as 'Sarkari kunte' (pond).

The board states that the entire one acre and three gunte is a waterbody (kunte) and that trespassing is prohibited.
DH PHOTO

On one side, the waterbody is lined with trees and on the other is Harlur main road. The land is worth over Rs 60 crore at current market value.

After *DH* published the report, revenue officials visited the site to reclaim the property and promised to fence it to prevent further encroachment.

A revenue official said they could not identify the encroachers, as the site was being used by taxi drivers to park their vehicles. "We did not identify the vehicles that were used to dump the debris," the officer told *DH*. He promised to hand over the land to the Lake Development Authority.

Several truckloads of debris were dumped in the 'kunte'.

WHEN FAITH SHINES

The radiant spire of St Mary's Basilica drew an endless stream of worshippers as festivities of the annual feast began in Shivajinagar on Friday. DH PHOTO/KISHORE KUMAR BOLAR

TIFR-CENTRE FOR APPLICABLE MATHEMATICS
BENGALURU-560065, INDIA
(An Autonomous Institution under the Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India and Deemed to be University)

ADVT. NO. 3/2025

TIFR Center for Applicable Mathematics, Bangalore, one of the units of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, an autonomous organization under the Department of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India and a Deemed University, invites **online applications** from Indian Nationals for the following positions on **regular basis.**

1. Administrative Assistant B (UR) - one post

2. Work Assistant (Reserved for PwBD) - one post

Relaxation in upper age limit will be as per rules. For further details with regard to educational qualification, experience, relaxation of age, general information etc., please visit **https://www.math.tifrbng.res.in.** Last date for submission of application on line is **22nd September 2025.**

Sd/-
Administrative Officer-E

CBC 48153/12/0003/2526

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Publication of Corrigendum 1&2 for E-Tender Notice No. Auto_Sig_CSDR-PKD Date: 11.08.2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Corrigendum 1, Schedule - D1 Item - 8 Description is modified and Documents added, Corrigendum 2, Documents added for Provision of Automatic Signalling between Chennasandra - Penukonda (CSDR-PKD) Section of Bengaluru Divisions. (Details already uploaded in website.)	Rs. 139,40,69,610.88

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 15.09.2025**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Dy. Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/ Construction/Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/415/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
E-Tender is invited by the Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer, Diesel Loco Shed, Southern Railway, Salem Division, Erode-638002 for the following work:

S.No.	Description	Description
1	Tender Notice Number and date	Bid Number: **GEM/2025/B/6567096** dated **27.08.2025**
2	Name of work	Housekeeping Contract for a Period of 600 Working Days at Diesel Loco Shed, Erode, Salem Division, Southern Railway
3	Estimate Value	Rs. 3572879.52/-
4	Tender Closing date and Time	22.09.2025 at 15.00 Hrs
5	Tender Opening date and Time	22.09.2025 at 15.30 Hrs
6	Web address	**http://www.gem.gov.in**

The Tender has been uploaded on the GeM portal **http://www.gem.gov.in** on **27.08.2025** as **Custom Bid.**

The firms registered in GeM Portal are only eligible to participate in this tender. Complete details of the above tenders are given on the GeM portal **"www.gem.gov.in".**

For Details of bid submission, please refer website portal **"www.gem.gov.in".**

For Details about scope of work, approximate value of tender, location and other documents, please refer website portal **"www.gem.gov.in".**

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer / (Rolling Stock)/Loco Shed/Erode

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER
E-Tender Notice No. & Uploading date: E-Dy-WW-500-Brake Van-2025, Date: 27.08.2025. Open e-Tender is invited by Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer (Wagon)/ Kharagpur Workshop, S.E. Railway, for and on behalf of the President of India for the following work before 15.00 hrs. on the date mentioned against item and will be opened at 15.00 hrs. **Name of the work :** Provision of adjustable guard chairs and other essential amenities in brake vans & Upgradation of brake vans during periodical overhauling in workshops. **Approximate cost of the work :** ₹ 24,26,38,230/- including GST @18%. **Earnest money :** ₹ 13,63,200/-. **Date & time of closing e-tender :** 18.09.2025 at 15.00 hrs. **Website Particulars & details: www.ireps.gov.in** Interested tenderers may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full details/description/specification of the tender and submit their bids online. In any circumstances no manual tenders for this work will be accepted. **(PR-572)**

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Publication of Corrigendum 1&2 for E-Tender Notice No. Auto_Sig_ YPR-ASK Date: 08.08.2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Corrigendum 1, Schedule - D1, Item - 8 Description is modified and Documents added, Corrigendum 2, Documents added and Corrigendum 3 Schedule - E item - 3 Qty is modified from 12 to 13, Schedule B1 item - 25 Unit is Mtr. And also Documents added for Provision of Automatic Signalling between Yesvantpur - Arsikere (YPR-ASK) Section of Bengaluru and Mysuru Divisions. (Details already uploaded in website.)	Rs. 160,95,45,891.77

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 15.09.2025**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Dy. Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/ Construction/Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/414/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
GATI SHAKTI UNIT (CIVIL WORK)
E-Tender Notice No: 03-2025-GSU-Civil. CPM, Gati Shakti, Central Railway, Solapur on behalf of the president of India Invites E-tender from the reputed firms/ Contractor for the following work. **Name of work:** Proposed Construction of 02 lane ROB in Lieu il LC-42 at km 391/8-9 on Daund-Solapur section. **Approximate cost of work:** Rs. 39,90,81,796.31, **Earnest Money:** Rs. 21,45,400.00, **Completion period of the work:** 18 (Eighteen) Months, **Maintenance Period :** 6 months or one monsoon whichever is later.Last Date and time for submission for tender on **www.ireps.gov.in** website: 18.09.2025 up to 15.00 hrs. **Date and time of opening of tender on www.ireps.gov.in:** 18.09.2025 after 15.30 hrs. **Website particulars : www.ireps.gov.in. Note:** The Prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website frequently before the date of closing of tender to note any change/corrigendum issued for this tender website: **www.ireps.gov.in**
ADE (GSU),Solapur.
Download UTS App for Tickets SLP-55

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
GATI SHAKTI UNIT (CIVIL WORK)
E-Tender Notice No:02-2025-GSU-Civil CPM, Gati Shakti, Central Railway, Solapur on behalf of the president of India Invites E-tender from the reputed firms/Contractor for the following work. **Name of work:** Proposed construction of 2 lane ROB in Lieu of LC-40 at km 387/3-4 on Daund-Solapur section. **Approximate cost of work:** Rs. 33,85,26,133.08, **Earnest Money:** Rs. 18,42,600.00 , **Completion period of the work:** 18 (Eighteen) Months, **Maintenance Period:** 6 months or one monsoon whichever is later. **Last Date and time for submission for tender on www.ireps.gov.in website :** 18.09.2025 up to 15.00 hrs. **Date and time of opening of tender on www.ireps.gov.in:** 18.09.2025 after 15.30 hrs. **Website particulars: www.ireps.gov.in. Note:** The Prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website frequently before the date of closing of tender to note any change/corrigendum issued for this tender website **www.ireps.gov.in.**
ADE(GSU), Solapur
Download UTS App for Tickets SLP-54

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER
Tender Notice No.: e-Tender/2025/28, Date: 28.08.2025. For and on behalf of President of India, the Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), South Eastern Railway, Kharagpur-721301 invites e-tender for the following works **before 15.00 hrs.** on the date mentioned against items and will be **opened at 15.30 hrs. Sl.No.**-1. **Tender No.: E-KGP-EAST-54-2025. Description of work:** Execution of work of Removal of PSR 75 Kmph in DN Line, two nos. 75 Kmph in MID line and 105 Kmph on UP Line by Yard remodeling along with improvement of Drainage system at Mecheda Yard under the jurisdiction of DEN/East/Kharagpur. **Tender Value:** ₹ 9,84,30,230.16. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 6,42,200. **Date of Opening:** 11.09.2025. **Sl.No.**-2. **Tender No.: E-KGP-HQ-37-2025. Description of work:** Construction of Restricted Height Subway (3m x 2.7m) at 25/5-7 in Panskura-Haldia section under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Tamluk (4th Call). **Tender Value:** ₹ 2,33,56,998.09. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,66,800. **Date of Opening:** 12.09.2025. **Sl.No.**-3. **Tender No.: E-KGP-WEST-34-2025. Description of work:** Kharagpur: Improvement & standardization of overrun line, dead end & sand hump under ADEN/West/Kharagpur (3rd call). **Tender Value:** ₹ 1,37,02,424.13. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,18,500. **Date of Opening:** 15.09.2025. **Sl.No.**-4. **Tender No.: E-KGP-WEST-35-2025. Description of work:** Supply of 2370 Nos. AT welding portion of rails (60kg 90UTS rails - 980 Nos. and 60kg/60El-R260 rails - 1390 Nos.) under the jurisdiction of DEN/West/Kharagpur. **Tender Value:** ₹ 53,58,122.07. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 1,07,200. **Date of Opening:** 18.09.2025. **Sl.No.**-5. **Tender No.: E-KGP-EAST-55-2025. Description of work:** Execution of following works of (i) Improvement & Standardization of Over Run Line, Dead End and Sand Hump under ADEN/Shalimar, (ii) Andul-Panskura : Through Fastening renewal for 23 Km and (iii) Howrah-Kharagpur: Renewal of SEJ-44 Sets and Glued Joints-774 Nos. under the jurisdiction of DEN/East/Kharagpur. **Tender Value:** ₹ 3,49,86,647.97. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 3,24,900. **Date of Opening:** 18.09.2025. **Tender Document Cost:** ₹ 0 (for Sl.No. 1 to 5 each). **Completion Period of the work:** 18 months (for Sl.No. 1) & 12 months (for Sl.No. 2 to 5 each). **Bidding start date:** From 28.08.2025 and up to 15.00 hrs. on 11.09.2025 (for Sl.No. 1), From 29.08.2025 and up to 15.00 hrs. on 12.09.2025 (for Sl.No. 2), From 01.09.2025 and up to 15.00 hrs. on 15.09.2025 (for Sl.No. 3) & From 04.09.2025 and up to 15.00 hrs. on 18.09.2025 (for Sl.No. 4 & 5 each). Interested tenderers may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full details/ descriptions/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tender for these works will be accepted. **N.B.:** Prospective bidders may regularly visit **www.ireps.gov.in** to participate in all tenders. **(PR-574)**

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
लघु सिंचाई रूपांकण प्रमण्डल, दुमका शिविर–देवघर

अल्पकालीन ई–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

e-Tender Reference No. : W.R.D./M.I.D.D.D.C.DEOGHAR/F_2-01/2025-26 (2nd Call)) Dated :- 29/08/2025

क्रम सं०	योजना का नाम	प्रखण्ड	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में)	अग्रधन की राशि (रूपये में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रूपये में)	वेबसाईट में ई–निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय	वेबसाईट में ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	ई–निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	ई–निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी के कार्यालय का नाम एवं पता	ई–निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का मोबाईल नम्बर	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	कन्हाईडीह–कुशमाहा जोरिया पर श्रृंखलाबद्ध चेकडैम निर्माण	मधुपुर	1,08,78,237.00	2,18,000.00	10,000.00	02/09/2025 (पूर्वाह्न 10.30 बजे से)	13/09/2025 (अपराह्न 05.00 बजे तक)	15/09/2025 (अपराह्न 05.00 बजे)	कार्यपालक अभियंता लघु सिंचाई रूपांकण प्रमण्डल दुमका शिविर देवघर	7257990512 10 A.M से 5 P.M	11 माह
2.	दर्वे–धमनी जोरिया पर श्रृंखलाबद्ध चेकडैम निर्माण	मधुपुर	1,13,97,396.00	2,28,000.00	10,000.00						11 माह
3.	रघुनाथपुर–दुलमपुर जोरिया पर श्रृंखलाबद्ध चेकडैम निर्माण	मधुपुर	1,25,09,627.00	2,51,000.00	10,000.00						11 माह
4.	भौराटांड़ जोरिया पर श्रृंखलाबद्ध चेकडैम निर्माण	मधुपुर	1,12,04,467.00	2,25,000.00	10,000.00						11 माह
5.	फतेनाथ जोरिया पर चेकडैम निर्माण	पालोजोरी	56,90,767.66	1,14,000.00	10,000.00						10 माह
6.	सितलकुन्डी जोरिया पर चेकडैम निर्माण	पालोजोरी	63,71,259.42	1,28,000.00	10,000.00						10 माह
7.	सारवां जोरिया पर श्रृंखलाबद्ध चेकडैम निर्माण	सारवां	1,23,80,880.00	2,48,000.00	10,000.00						11 माह
8.	चितरपुर जोरिया पर श्रृंखलाबद्ध चेकडैम निर्माण	देवीपुर	1,45,69,869.00	2,92,000.00	10,000.00						11 माह
9.	बड़ामेखौं बेहंगा जोरिया पर श्रृंखलाबद्ध चेकडैम निर्माण	देवीपुर	1,01,24,195.00	2,03,000.00	10,000.00						11 माह
10.	भवानीपुर जोरिया पर श्रृंखलाबद्ध चेकडैम निर्माण	करौं	1,17,36,001.00	2,35,000.00	10,000.00						11 माह
11.	तुलसीटॉड (मोहनाटॉड़) जोरिया पर चेकडैम निर्माण	करौं	56,87,907.14	1,14,000.00	10,000.00						10 माह
12.	कनुआडीह जोरिया पर श्रृंखलाबद्ध चेकडैम निर्माण	सोनारायठाड़ी	91,95,580.62	1,84,000.00	10,000.00						10 माह

(1) केवल ई–निविदा ही स्वीकार किया जायेगा।
(2) निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि केवल Online Mode द्वारा ही स्वीकार्य होगी।
(3) निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई–भुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बन्द कर दिया जाता है तो सारी जवाबदेही सम्बन्धित निविदादाता की होगी।
(4) प्राक्कलित राशि घट बढ़ सकती है। अग्रधन की राशि परिमाण विपत्र की राशि के अनुसार होगी।
(5) राज्य सरकार के द्वारा निर्गत सभी अद्यतन आदेश/परिपत्र लागु होंगे।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in में लॉग ऑन करें।

PR 360732 (Water Resource) 25-26 (D)

ह0/–
कार्यपालक अभियन्ता
लघु सिंचाई रूपांकण प्रमण्डल, दुमका शिविर–देवघर

Rail Wheel Plant/Bela
(Distt. - Saran), Bihar 841221
E-Tender Notice No. 06/RWP/Engg/ 2025-26/WT/(Open) Date:-28.08.2025
The Dy. CE/RWP/Bela for and on behalf of the President of India, invites Online **"e-Open Tender"** through Indian Railways E-procurement portal (IREPS) **www.ireps.gov.in** for the following works as detailed :- **(1) Name of the work and Location Approximate cost, Earnest money and Completion period of the work :** Tender No-12_RWP_Engg_25_26_WT_ Open, **Name of Work:-** Renovation of shunting neck to facilitate rail connectivity inside workshop at RWP/Bela. **Approximate cost-** Rs. 90,51,956/-, **Tender form Cost-** Nil, **Earnest money-** Rs. 1,81,000/-, **Completion period of the work -** 06 Months **(2) Tender closing date and time :** 19.09.2025 upto 14:30 Hrs. **(3) Website particulars and notice board location where complete details of tender can be obtained and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. :** The above tender can be submitted only by the date and time as mentioned in the notice. For full details and submission of bid kindly visit Portal (IREPS) **www.ireps.gov.in.** The prospective firms/bidders submitting bid are advised to remain in touch with IREPS Portal (www.irpes.gov.in) for updates including Addendum/Corrigendum/ Cancellation with respect to the above tender because no such any notice/information concerned that shall be published in newspaper.
Dy. Chief Engineer /Rail Wheel Plant, Bela
RWP/CPRO/Advt./2025-26/61

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving
Holy Spirit Prayer
Holy Spirit, Thou who make me see everything and shows me the way to reaching my ideals, You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and Who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue want to thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You, no matter how great the material desires may be, I want to be with You and my loved ones in Your perpetual glory. To that end and submitting to God's holy will, I ask from You.....etc (your reqest)

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Online booking for Mullayyanagiri, Bababudangiri from Sept 1

CHIKKAMAGALURU, DHNS: Tourists heading to Mullayyanagiri and Bababudangiri will now have to make an online booking in advance, as the new system will come into effect from September 1.

Bookings can be made through the official district website https://chikkamagaluru.nic.in/en/tourism

Visitors will have to pay a fee of Rs 50 for bikes, Rs 100 for cars, Rs 150 for motor vehicles, and Rs 200 for Tempo Travellers. Two visiting slots have been fixed daily — from 6 am to 12 noon, and from 1 pm to 6 pm.

Over 2,500 SC/ST atrocity cases pending in 11 special courts

Tumakuru district tops list with 407 cases

SUJAY B M
BENGALURU, DHNS

As many as 2,593 cases of atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are pending before 11 special courts in the state. Tumakuru tops the list with 407 cases.

Belagavi stands second with 346 pending cases, followed by Yadgir (274). Of the overall 2,904 cases before special courts this year, 311 cases have been disposed of, with a conviction rate of 11%, according to a document of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) which *DH* has accessed.

In the SC/ST vigilance committee meeting held recently, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah noted that investigations should be conducted swiftly and justice be ensured at the earliest.

These special courts have been set up as per the mandate of the Prevention of Atrocities Against SCs and STs, 1989, and they only deal with atrocity cases. As per the document, such special courts have been established in 11 districts – Mysuru, Belagavi, Tumakuru, Yadgir, Vijayapura, Raichur, Kolar, Kalaburagi, Bengaluru South (Ramanagara), Shivamogga and Bagalkot. Three districts – Mysuru, Yadgir and Bengaluru South had no convictions at all.

In these 11 districts, the SC/ST atrocity cases come before these designated courts, whereas they are heard by different courts in other districts. Overall, 6,761 cases pending across all courts in the state.

According to SWD sources, there has been a proposal to set up special courts in other districts too, and the proposal is said to be pending before the High Court.

The state also reported 50 murder and 90 rape cases against SC/STs this year. Charge sheets have been filed in 35 murder cases and 55 rape cases till now.

As per the statistics, there has been a rise in rape cases against SC/STs this year. While there were 99 rape cases in 2023 and 114 in 2024, there have been 90 cases in the first seven months of 2025 (till July 31).

While chargesheets have been filed in 55 cases, investigation is in progress in 28 cases. Of the 50 murder cases, charge sheets have been filed in 35, while investigation is in progress in the remaining ones.

Transfer at MLA's instance not vitiated, says HC

BENGALURU, DHNS

The high court has observed that a transfer at the instance or recommendation of an MLA itself would not vitiate the transfer.

A division bench, comprising Justices S G Pandit and K V Aravind, said this while dismissing the petition filed by S Venkateshappa, Grade-I Tahsildar at Bangarpet taluk of Kolar district. On July 31, 2024, Venkateshappa was transferred and posted as Tahsildar, Bangarpet. On December 31, 2024, he was transferred to the DC office in Kolar with another officer replacing him as Tahsildar, Bangarpet. Venkateshappa moved the high court after his challenge to this transfer was rejected by the Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal, Bengaluru.

Venkateshappa contended that his transfer was premature and contrary to the transfer guidelines, as he had only been posted at Bangarpet since July 31, 2024.

It was also argued that as a Group A officer, he was entitled to a minimum tenure of two years in that posting. He further claimed that his transfer was not in the interest of the public, but only at the instance of the local MLA.

On the other hand, the government advocate submitted that transfer was ordered upon a letter by the MLA, citing Venkateshappa's failure to address public grievances. The transfer was approved by the chief minister, who recorded reasons for the premature transfer in accordance with transfer guidelines.

The division bench referred to the Mohammed Masood Ahmad vs State of UP case, wherein the Apex Court held that transfer on an MLA's recommendation does not invalidate the transfer.

The bench referred to the MLA's letter to the minister for revenue stating that the petitioner was not regular to his office in time and was not responding to the public grievances. The bench said Apex Court had made it clear that when people express their grievances before their representative, it is the duty of the representative to request for transfer of such government servants, and the state government is also within its jurisdiction to transfer such government servants. "In the above circumstances, we do not find any error or illegality in the order passed by the Tribunal. Moreover, in terms of Clause-5 (3) of Transfer Guidelines dated 25.06.2024, for special or exceptional reasons, transfer with the approval of the CM is permissible," the bench said.

Survey of Devadasis likely to begin next week

The exercise will start with a 15-day awareness drive

SUJAY B M
BENGALURU, DHNS

The Women Child Development Department will begin its 45-day survey of Devadasis (practice banned in Karnataka since 1984) from next week to study the socio-economic condition of women affected by the regressive practice.

The exercise will begin with a 15-day awareness drive, followed by a month-long survey of the socio-economic condition of Devadasis. According to top sources, the survey is expected to begin on September 4 or 5.

The Karnataka Devadasis (Prohibition of Dedication) Act, 1982 (received presidential assent in 1984) had rendered the repressive Devadasi ("dedicating women to god") practice unlawful. Recently, the Assembly passed the Karnataka Devadasi (Prevention, Prohibition, Relief and Rehabilitation) Bill, which seeks to replace the earlier Act.

According to the bill, a child born to a Devadasi has the right to identify their father, and the father can be directed by the district court to undergo a DNA test to ascertain paternity.

According to the WCD Department, the survey seeks to collect details such as age, address, educational, social and economic situation of Devadasi women. Secondly, it intends to include other Devadasis who weren't part of the previous surveys. The survey is a budgetary announcement from 2024-25, and is the third such survey to be conducted in the state.

The survey is a budgetary announcement from 2024-25, and is the third such survey to be conducted in the state.

In 1993-94, a survey was conducted in 10 districts, where 22,873 Devadasi women were identified. Later, a re-survey was conducted in 2007-08, where 46,660 Devadasi women were identified.

The current exercise will be conducted in 15 districts in northern and central Karnataka – Kalaburagi, Bidar, Vijayapura, Yadgir, Raichur, Ballari, Vijayanagara, Belagavi, Bagalkot, Dharwad, Haveri, Gadag, Shivamogga, Davanagere and Chitradurga.

If Devadasis enumerated in the earlier surveys have since passed away, their family members can provide information after proving that they belong to the deceased's family.

If the former Devadasi is alive and hasn't been included in the previous surveys, they can submit a form. If the documents prove that the person had been "dedicated" as per the Karnataka Devadasis (Prohibition of Dedication) Act, 1982, the president, the district supervision and evaluation committee and the DC can provide a certificate.

The survey will be conducted by enumerators who have completed PUC and have knowledge of Kannada and English typing. Preference will be given to children and grandchildren of Devadasis.

SHOWCASING FOLK

A folk artiste performs during a Ganesha idol immersion procession in Davangere on Friday. DH PHOTO/SATISH BADIGER

Govt set to lose Rs 600 cr in B'luru...

Lease loss, from Page 1

The KSTDC managing director pointed out the company violated the government order of 1992, which said "the lessee should not transfer this land by way of sub-lease, mortgage or otherwise without prior permission".

"Since Royal Orchid Hotel subletting government land to Golf View Homes without prior permission is illegal, the request for renewing the lease for 30 years should be rejected. It is hereby requested to invite tender (for the property)," the KSTDC MD wrote to the additional chief secretary of tourism department.

However, no disciplinary action was taken against the company.

As per provisions of the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act (KTPP Act), a public property should be leased only through auction. The KSTDC would have benefited from the auction.

However, documents show that in March 2023, the then additional chief secretary, tourism department, held a meeting wherein a decision was made to renew the lease of 2 acre 19 gunta. It was also decided to scrap the lease agreement for the part of the land that was illegally sub-leased by Royal Orchid.

While the lease renewal itself goes against the KTPP Act, the government has committed another imprudent act by giving the land at a throw away price, which is estimated to cause a loss of at least Rs 600 crore (based on current value) over the next 30 years.

According to a source, the lease was renewed at a rate of less than Rs 1 crore per acre.

"The government will end up getting less than Rs 2 crore per year. Auctioning the land along with the hotel rooms would have helped it to earn Rs 20-25 crore every year. In 30 years, the government will end up losing at least Rs 600 crore," the source explained.

The renewal agreement was based on the September 2023 government order which fixed the lease amount "along the lines of the agreement with Karnataka Golf Association (KGA)". However, this overlooked the fact that Royal Orchid is a purely commercial entity whereas KGA is a body with a stated objective of promoting health and fitness through sports. Notably, the same private firm paid Rs 3.23 crore or about 24% of the gross income (including fixed lease amount and incremental profit sharing) for the lease of space in Mysuru for Royal Orchid Metropole. Similarly, for the Royal Orchid Brindavan Garden Palace, Mysuru, the company paid 24% of the gross income, including a fixed rent of Rs 1.72 crore.

Documents show that in March 2023, the KSDTC MD wrote to the government that the market value of the Domlur land parcel was Rs 16,000/sq ft. He had left the decision of auctioning it to the government.

"Considering the importance of optimum utilisation of resources to fund the welfare schemes, the renewal is a loss. The lease should be scrapped immediately and bids should be invited to monetise the land," an official said.

Officials in KSTDC and the tourism department could not be reached for a comment.

Chander K Baljee, the chairman and MD of Royal Orchid Hotels Ltd, did not respond to a mail seeking response.

Class 9 girl delivers baby: Main accused arrested

KALABURAGI, DHNS: The police on Friday arrested the main accused in a case pertaining to a Class 9 student delivering a baby boy in the washroom of the residential school in Shahapur of Yadgir district.

The arrested is Paramanna Wari (28). He is already married and has a child. The man had lured the girl and sexually assaulted her. He had also threatened the girl not to reveal about the rape, the police said.

A case has been registered against him under the Pocso Act.

The principal of the residential school, the warden and a staff nurse are booked in the case.

A complaint is also lodged against the girl's brother for not revealing it to the officials concerned despite having knowledge of the case.

◆ WEATHER ◆

Overview: Rainfall occurred at few places over North Interior and at most places over Coastal Karnataka and South Interior Karnataka

Forecast Aug 30: Rainfall to occur at many places over the state.

INTERIOR NORTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Belagavi	26	21.4	2.2
Bidar	23	20.8	18
Vijayapura	27.5	21.6	01
Dharwad	27.6	19.6	01
Haveri	24.8	21.2	4.6
Kalaburagi	26.4	21.6	14.7
Raichur	29	22.8	3.8
COASTAL			
Honnavar	27.1	22	103.7
Karwar	27.8	24	24.1
Shirali	NA	NA	NA
Mangaluru	26.1	22.4	138.8

INTERIOR SOUTH

Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Agumbe	NA	NA	98
Bengaluru	28.2	20.2	16.1
Ballari	NA	NA	NA
Chamarajanagar	29.9	21.1	NA
Chikkamagaluru	NA	NA	NA
Chitradurga	27	20.3	17.8
Davangere	26	19.5	06
Hassan	25.3	19.2	1.5
Mysuru	28.4	20	04
Madikeri	NA	NA	NA
Kolar	30.1	20.8	8.8

OTHER STATIONS

New Delhi	35.4	26.2	00
Kolkata	32.6	27	10
Mumbai	28.8	25	20
Chennai	34	27.4	00
Pune	27	21.8	11
Hyderabad	25.6	21.7	02
Th'puram	30.5	24.3	05

Fake documents: GP members disqualified

GOKAK (BELAGAVI DISTRICT), DHNS: Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department (RDPRD) has disqualified all 28 members of Sindikurbet Gram Panchayat for allegedly violating norms and transferring property of a legitimate owner in the name of another person by using false documents They have also been barred the members from contesting elections for a period of six years. RDPR additional chief secretary has issued the orders on August 14.

Honour killing: Man strangles daughter to death

KALABURAGI, DHNS: The police have arrested a man on the charge strangulating his daughter to death since she was in love with a boy of another girl in Melakunda (B) village of Kalaburagi taluk.

The deceased has been identified as Kavita (18) of Lingayat community. She was reported in love with an auto driver belonging to Kuruba community.

Police said that on August 28, Kavita had an argument with his father Shankar Kollur and other family members after which Kollur and two others strangulated her to death. The last rites were performed next day claiming that Kavita died by consuming pesticide. But, she was forced to consume pesticide, the police said.

Kalaburagi City Police Commissioner Sharanappa S D said that the girl's father has been arrested and a search has been launched to nab other two persons who are absconding.

A suo motu complaint has been registered against all three persons at Farhatabad police station.

PUBLIC NOTICE

We are undertaking a title investigation on the immovable properties more fully described in the **'Schedule'** hereto and hereinafter referred to as **'Schedule Properties'**. The said title due diligence is being conducted for and on behalf of our Client, who is desirous of acquiring by way of sale, the Schedule Properties from its present owner.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s other than the present owner, asserting any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned, their claim/s, if any, over the Schedule Properties or submit their objections, if any, to the aforementioned transaction. The said claim/s or objections must be in writing, together with documentary proof to support such claim/s or objections and must be delivered to us at the address given below within a period of **15 (Fifteen) days** from the date of publication of this Notice. If no such claim/s or objections are received, it shall be deemed that no one else other than the present owner has any right, title, interest or claim whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties and our Client would be at liberty to proceed with the said transaction in connection with the Schedule Properties.

SCHEDULE
(Description of the Schedule Properties)

All that piece and parcel of the immovable properties totally admeasuring 12 Acres 11 Guntas, situated at Chokkanahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, described in the table below:

Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Extent		Boundaries
1.	23/7	02 Acres (excluding 1 ½ Guntas of 'B' Kharab Land	East by	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 23/8 and 23/2;
			West by	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 24/1, 24/4 & 24/3;
			North by	Road;
			South by	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 25/1 & 26.
2.	24/1	18 Guntas (excluding 1 Gunta of 'B' kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 23 and Access Road;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 2 (Chokkanahalli Lake);
			North by	Road; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey Nos. 24/2, 24/4 and 24/5.
3.	24/2	11 Guntas (no kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 24/5;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 2 (Chokkanahalli Lake);
			North by	Land bearing Survey No. 24/1; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 24/3.
4.	24/3	1 Acre 04 Guntas (excluding 3 Guntas of 'B' kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 23/7;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 2 (Chokkanahalli Lake);
			North by	Land bearing Survey Nos. 24/2, 24/4 and 24/5; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/1.
5.	24/4	11 Guntas (excluding 1 Gunta of 'B' kharba land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 23;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 24/5;
			North by	Land bearing Survey No. 24/1; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 24/3.
6.	24/5	11 Guntas (no kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 24/4;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 24/2;
			North by	Land bearing Survey No. 24/1; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 24/3.
7.	25/1	1 Acre 09 Guntas (excluding 1 Gunta of 'B' kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 26;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 2 (Chokkanahalli Lake);
			North by	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 24/3 and 23/7;
			South by	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 25/8, 25/6, 25/10, 25/11, 25/9 and 25/5.
8.	25/2	39 Guntas (no kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 70;
			West by	Nala / Halla;
			North by	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 25/3 and 25/4; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 70/1.
9.	25/3	20 Guntas (no kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/4;
			West by	Halla/Nala;
			North by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/7; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/2.
10.	25/4	13 Guntas (no kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 70;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/3;
			North by	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 25/7 and 25/5; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/2.
11.	25/5	12 Guntas (no kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey Nos. 25/1 and 70;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/9;
			North by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/1; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/4.
12.	25/6	8 ¼ Guntas (no kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/10;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/8;
			North by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/1; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/7.
13.	25/7	33 Guntas (no kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/4;
			West by	Halla / Nala;
			North by	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 25/8, 25/6, 25/10, 25/11 and 25/9; and
			South by	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 25/3 and 25/4.
14.	25/8	14 Guntas (no kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/6;
			West by	Halla / Nala;
			North by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/1; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/7.
15.	25/9	8 ¼ Guntas (no kharab land)	East by	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 25/1 and 25/5;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/11;
			North by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/1; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/7.
16.	25/10	8 ¼ Guntas (no kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/11;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/6;
			North by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/1; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/7.
17.	25/11	8 ¼ Guntas (no kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/9;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/10;
			North by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/1; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/7.
18.	26	1 Acre 23 Guntas (excluding 3 Guntas of 'B' kharab land)	East by	Land bearing Survey No. 70;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 25/1;
			North by	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 23/6, 23/7 and 27; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 70.
19.	83/2	1 Acre (excluding 3 ½ Guntas of 'B' kharab land)	East by	Halla / Nala;
			West by	Land bearing Survey No. 83/3;
			North by	Land bearing Survey No. 84; and
			South by	Land bearing Survey No. 82/21.

Sd/-
Mr. Srinivas B.R., Partner
DSK Legal,
Prestige Loka, No. 201, 2nd Floor, No. 7/1 & 7/7,
Brunton Road, Bengaluru – 560025, Tel: 080-69548770.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 30.08.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that we are conducting the title due diligence for the property mentioned and described in the Schedule hereunder and it is noted that **(i) Sri. S. N. Ramaswamy**, son of Late Narasimhaiah **(ii) Sri. S. R. Naveen Kumar (iii) Sri. Praveen Kumar** and **(iv) Smt. R. Prabhavathi,** serial Nos **(ii)** to **(iv)** are the children of Sri. S. N. Ramaswamy, claims to have acquired title to the Schedule Property through their predecessor-in-title, Sri. Munishamappa, son of Sri. Narasimahaiah, (who had earlier acquired title to the Schedule Property through the registered sale deed executed by Sri. Nagappa) and that **(i) Sri. V. M. Chinnanna**, son of Sri. M. Muniramaiah and **(ii) Sri. Shreyas,** son of Sri. V. M. Chinnanna, claims to have acquired title to the Schedule Property through their predecessor-in-title, Smt. Rathnamma, wife of Sri. V. M. Chinnanna (who had earlier acquired title to the Schedule Property through the Last Will and Testament of Sri. Nagappa) and that there are litigations pending between the claimants each claiming to have acquired valid right, title and interest to the Schedule Property.

Any person/s having any objections, claims, rights, title and/or interest with respect to the Schedule Property or any part or portion thereof, apart from the above mentioned parties, by way of sale, agreement of sale, gift, conveyance, acquisition, partition, transfer, last will and testament, memorandum of understanding, exchange, mortgage, pledge, charge, encumbrance, inheritance, succession, lease, easement or demand of any nature whatsoever with respect to the Schedule Property shall lodge their claim(s)/objection(s)/demand(s) with the undersigned supported by documentary evidence **within Fifteen (15) days** from the date of publication of this Notice failing which, we shall proceed with completion of the title due diligence based on the documents made available to us.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residentially converted land bearing Survey No. 51/1, measuring 3 acres 19 guntas (duly converted vide Official Memorandum dated 21-04-2012 in No. ALN(A)(S):SR 2/2012-13 issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District) situated at Ittanguru Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District and is bounded on the:

East by : Land bearing Survey Nos. 36 and 37;
West by : Land bearing Survey Nos. 52 and 55;
North by : Road and Land bearing Survey No. 52; and
South by : Land bearing Survey No. 51/3.

Vinay K. S., Advocate,
Vinay Kademane & Associates
307, 3rd Floor, Prestige Centre Point,
No.7/49, Edward Road, Bengaluru-560001
Ph.: 080 22863885/49763233
Email:vinay@vinaykademane.in

Place : Bengaluru
Date : 29-08-2025

FORM G
INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR GSTAAD HOTELS PRIVATE LIMITED

OPERATING IN HOTEL INDUSTRY AT BANGALORE
(Under Regulation 36A (1) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016)

SL.	RELEVANT PARTICULARS	
1.	Name of the corporate debtor along with PAN/ CIN/ LLP No.	**Gstaad Hotels Private Limited** CIN: U55101MH2003PTC143481 PAN: AACCG1048B
2.	Address of the registered office	Raheja Chambers, 4th Floor Linking Road and Main Avenue, Santacruz West, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India, 400054.
3.	URL of website	https://incorprestructuring.in/gstaad_hotels_pvt_ltd.html
4.	Details of place where majority of fixed assets are located	24/1, Gstaad Hotels Pvt Ltd, Vittal Mallya Road, Bangalore.
5.	Installed capacity of main products/ services	Not Applicable
6.	Quantity and value of main products/ services sold in last financial year	Not Applicable
7.	Number of employees/ workmen	397
8.	Further details including last available financial statements (with schedules) of two years, lists of creditors, relevant dates for subsequent events of the process are available at:	The details can be sought by emailing at cirp.gstaad1@gmail.com and/or virtual data room in accordance with the provisions of the Code and Regulations made thereunder.
9.	Eligibility for resolution applicants under section 25(2)(h) of the Code is available at:	The details can be sought by emailing at cirp.gstaad1@gmail.com and/or virtual data room in accordance with the provisions of the Code and Regulations made thereunder. The same is also available at the URL mentioned above at point no. 3.
10.	Last date for receipt of expression of interest	September 15, 2025
11.	Date of issue of provisional list of prospective resolution applicants	September 20, 2025
12.	Last date for submission of objections to provisional list	September 25, 2025
13.	Date of issue of final list of prospective resolution applicants	September 30, 2025
14.	Date of issue of information memorandum, evaluation matrix and request for resolution plans to prospective resolution applicants	October 02, 2025
15.	Last date for submission of resolution plans	November 03, 2025
16.	Process email id to submit EOI	cirp.gstaad1@gmail.com

1. The Resolution Professional ("RP")/ Committee of Creditors ("CoC") shall have discretion to change the criteria for the EOI at any point of time.
2. The RP/CoC reserves the right to cancel or modify the process/ application without assigning any reason and without any liability whatsoever.

Jayesh Sanghrajka
Resolution Professional
In the matter of Gstaad Hotels Private Limited
Registration Number: IBBI/IPA-001/IP-P00216/2017-2018/10416
AFA No. AA1/10416/02/311225/107388 valid till December 31, 2025

Address registered with IBBI: 405-407, Hind Rajasthan Building, D. S. Phalke Road, Dadar (E), Maharashtra, 400014

Date: August 30, 2025
Place: Mumbai

Jain seers stand in unity with Dharmasthala, back Heggade

Say will reach Vidhana Soudha if smear campaign not stopped

MANGALURU, DHNS

In the backdrop of an alleged smear campaign on social media, Bhattaraka seers of various Jain Mutts, Shravaks and Shravikas of Jainism gathered in large number at Dharmasthala, on Friday, to express their solidarity with Dharmadhikari of Dharmasthala Manjunatha temple D Veerendra Heggade.

They were taking part in Dharma Samrakshana Samavesha held in the temple town.

Speaking on the occasion, noted writer and scholar Hampa Nagarajaiah observed that the conspiracy against Dharmasthala should have been stopped at the very beginning, before it gained ground.

"We should not have allowed it to grow to this stage. Young minds have been misled, and it is our duty to bring them back on the right path. By presenting the truth, we can expose the falsehood," he added.

He termed Dharmadhikari Veerendra Heggade as a "role model for the country" and said "Heggade's patience and silence are his greatest strengths. Such composure is the true test of a great personality."

Dhavalakeerthi Bhattaraka Pattacharyavarya, seer of Digambar Jain Mutt- Arihantagiri, said, "All Bhattarakas and shravakas stand in solidarity with the Dharmasthala Kshethra and Veerendra Heggade. Any attempt to defame the Heggade family does not bring dishonour to them. Truth always triumphs, and Heggade and his family represent that truth."

Several Jain mutt seers take part in Dharma Samrakshana Samavesha held in Dharmasthala on Friday. Dharmadhikari Veerendra Heggade is also seen.

The seer added that Dharmasthala Kshetra was known for four daanas.

"If smear campaign against Dharmasthala Kshetra and Jain community continues, then we will reach our voice to the Vidhana Soudha," the seer said.

"We sent out a letter on August 18, and within 10 days, we all came together in unity. We always stand for justice... Countless temples have been renovated because of Heggade's efforts. The poor and the needy have received generous aid," he said.

Veerendra Heggade said, "As SIT investigation is in progress, I will not speak much. Truth has only one face. We will not move away from the path of truth. People should remain patient, and maintain peace and harmony."

"Many people have expressed their support. Many, including women, are ready for any protests. However, there is no need for any protest. Let us leave it (the decision) to God. We are now seeing the result," he added.

Bhuvanakeerthi Bhattaraka Pattacharyavarya, seer of Digambar Jain Mutt, Kanakagiri; Lalitakeerthi Bhattaraka Mahaswamiji of Karkala, Vrushabhasena Bhattaraka Mahaswamiji of Lakkavalli and others were present.

Mahesh Thimmarody, Girish Mattennavar appear before SIT

Sujatha Bhat questioned for 4th consecutive day

MANGALURU, DHNS

Activists Mahesh Shetty Thimmarody and Girish Mattennavar appeared before the Special Investigation Team (SIT), which is probing Dharmasthala mass burial, at its office in Belthangady on Friday.

Thimmarody has been accused of providing shelter to a complainant-witness. On August 26, the SIT had conducted searches at his residence.

Earlier in the day, Thimmarody, who is also an accused in a case related to obstructing the police from discharging their duty, appeared before Belthangady police for inquiry.

On August 21, Brahmavar police had visited Thimmarody's house to arrest him following allegations that he had made derogatory remarks on social media against BJP National General Secretary B L Santhosh.

During the attempt, police were allegedly obstructed in the course of duty, leading to a case being registered against several individuals. Thimmarody was named as third accused in the case. According to police sources, his statement was recorded after he appeared at the station on Friday morning.

Speaking to the mediapersons after visiting the SIT, Girish Mattennavar said, "I had written to the SIT requesting an opportunity to share information, and they responded immediately. I have shared the details I possess. If attempts are made to falsely implicate us and send us to jail, we have resolved to fight under Gandhian principles instead of seeking anticipatory bail. The SIT is conducting the investigation scientifically and fairly."

He further stated, "I have provided details regarding the illegalities that took place in Dharmasthala village during the burial of bodies by forging signatures."

Sujatha Bhat, who had filed a complaint regarding the alleged disappearance of her daughter Ananya Bhat in 2003, appeared before the SIT for the fourth consecutive day.

According to the SIT sources, "Sujatha Bhat has been questioned for the fourth consecutive day. At this stage, it is difficult to predict whether she will be taken into custody, as the decision will depend on the outcome of the ongoing interrogation."

On the allegations that Mahesh Shetty Thimmarody and his team offered financial support to a complainant-witness, sources clarified that the matter was still under investigation.

Special Investigation Team Chief Pronab Mohanty also visited the SIT office on Friday.

Cong's 'vote theft' resulted in your '91 loss, Ashoka tells CM

BENGALURU, DHNS: A day after Chief Minister Siddaramaiah recounted his legal battle in 1991 when he had lost the Lok Sabha election in Koppal, Leader of Opposition in the Assembly R Ashoka on Friday pointed out to the CM that he had accused the victorious candidate from the Congress party of electoral fraud.

In 1991, contesting as Janata Dal candidate from the Koppal Lok Sabha seat, Siddaramaiah lost the election by 11,197 votes to Basavaraj Patil Anwari of the Congress. He subsequently enlisted jurist Ravivarma Kumar to file a case challenging the result.

In his post on 'X', Ashoka wrote that it was the Congress that had resorted to 'vote theft' to defeat Siddaramaiah in 1991. "By admitting that his loss in 1991 was the result of electoral malpractice, Siddaramaiah has inadvertently exposed the Congress's record of 'vote theft'," wrote Ashoka.

The LoP also pointed out that former minister K N Rajanna, who had questioned the Congress's claims of vote theft, had been divested of his Cabinet seat on Rahul Gandhi's orders. "Does Rahul Gandhi have the courage to remove Siddaramaiah from the CM's post or from the Congress party? Are such disciplinary measures reserved only for Dalit leaders," asked Ashoka.

He also cited former Union Minister C M Ibrahim's assertion of Siddaramaiah's victory in Badami in the 2018 Assembly polls – by a narrow margin of under 1,400 votes – having been secured through buying of votes. "When the Congress was the dominant party, elections were held without the use of Electronic Voting Machines. Even Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara has admitted that Congress workers 'sat and pressed votes'," said Ashoka.

The Congress party and the Nehru-Gandhi family are the 'patriarchs' of vote-theft, wrote the LoP.

Meanwhile, the Karnataka BJP sought to know how Siddaramaiah could join Rahul Gandhi's 'Vote Adhikar Yatra' after claiming that his loss in 1991 was brought about through fraudulent means. "Siddaramaiah has forgotten his past, and has abandoned his self-respect by aligning with the Congress's narrative of vote theft," wrote the Karnataka BJP.

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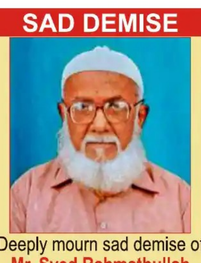


Deeply mourn sad demise of
Mr. Syed Rahmathullah
Joint Director of Sericulture (Rtd.)
on Friday 29th August 2025,
Inserted by: Son. Dr Wajahath Parveez, ENT Surgeon, Shifa Hospital & Safa Medicure Hospital.

Plans afoot to relocate strays from Vidhana Soudha premises

BENGALURU, DHNS

Plans are afoot to shift 53 free-roaming dogs on Vidhana Soudha premises to kennels, Assembly Speaker U T Khader said on Friday.

Addressing reporters, Khader said that a proposal had been submitted to the state government and a non-profit organisation will be onboarded to take care of the dogs.

He said these dogs have been causing inconvenience to lawmakers and visitors.

Khader explained that the ground floor of the complex lacks adequate protection, which has raised hygiene and safety concerns.

Members from across political parties have raised complaints - some MLAs requested that the dogs be protected, while others demanded their removal.

As a "viamedia approach," Khader said that all 53 dogs will be relocated to shelters within the premises, and an NGO will take responsibility for their daily care, food, and medical needs.

The project will be implemented immediately upon state government's approval. According to Khader, the average lifespan of dogs is 14 to 15 years, and over the next five to six years, Vidhana Soudha will gradually become free of strays, he added.

'NeVA lacks flexibility'

On the issue of the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA), Khader said its applicability in Karnataka remains limited due to variations in legislative rules, especially in states with bicameral legislatures. He pointed out that NeVA currently lacks flexibility to modify provisions based on state-specific needs. To address this, his office has constituted an expert committee to explore the development of its own digital platform for legislative functioning. Khader believes this could eventually serve as a model for other states. A decision will be taken once the committee submits its final report.

Khader also reviewed the recently concluded monsoon session held from August 11 to 22, noting that it spanned nine working days with 70 hours and 2 minutes of proceedings.

State to host CPA India conference from Sept 11

Legislative Assembly Speaker U T Khader announced on Friday that the state will host the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region Conference from September 11 to 14.

The event will feature speakers, deputy speakers, chairmen and their deputies from across India, and speakers from nine Commonwealth countries have also been invited - several of whom have confirmed participation.

The event will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at the grand steps of Vidhana Soudha on September 11, with Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla expected to attend.

The sessions will be held at a luxury hotel on September 12 and 13, followed by a delegate tour to Mysuru on September 14. Khader clarified that the politically sensitive topic of "vote chori" (vote theft) will not be discussed during the conference. The event is being jointly organised with the Lok Sabha.

Forest land given to develop Abhiman studio illegally sold: Forest dept

Officials say land was never denotified; bids made to sell 10 acres

CHIRANJEEVI KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

Half a century after the government sanctioned 20 acres of forest land in Kengeri to develop Abhiman Studio, officials have found several violations, including the illegal sale of 10 acres of the land, and an illegal attempt to sell the remaining part at Rs 14.37 crore.

The land was notified by the erstwhile Maharaja of Mysore as the Turahalli State Forest. However, it was never denotified and its legal status remained forest. As per the Supreme Court order in Godavarman Thirumulpad vs Union of India case, the land has to be restored to the Forest Department.

In March 1970, the government sanctioned the 20 acres to veteran Kannada actor T N Balakrishna under the condition that the land should not be utilised for any purpose other than developing Abhiman Film Studio.

As per the condition, the land could not be sold or alienated, and any violation would lead to the government taking back the land. However, in the following years, several irregularities took place. It started with the July 16, 2003, order of the special deputy commissioner (DC), Bengaluru Urban, permitting Balakrishna's sons Srinivas and B Ganesh to sell 10 acres of the land, allegedly to fund the development of the studio.

Last year, the Forest Department wrote to the Bengaluru Urban Deputy Commissioner, stating that the special DC's order to sell 10 acres of forest was illegal without the express approval of the government and without denotification of the forest.

Back in 2015, the then Bengaluru Urban deputy commissioner had written to the additional chief secretary, Revenue Department, to withdraw the sanction.

"The report by the tahsildar states that B Ganesh has failed to develop the studio and recommends that the government take back the remaining 10 acres," says the letter, a copy of which is available with *DH*.

The Forest Department has requested the Bengaluru Urban DC to restore the land as a forest as per the law.

To a question, Bengaluru Urban DC Jagadeesha G said he will look into the matter.

"I have received the letters from the forest department. I will look into the documents and order the assistant commissioner to conduct an inquiry. The same will be forwarded to the government," he said.

Illegal sale of the remaining 10 acres

Documents show that the forest department has now written to the Bengaluru Urban Deputy Commissioner to flag yet another attempt to sell the remaining portion of the land in August 2021.

"A registered sale deed with RRN-1-024-97-2021-22 has been executed to sell the remaining land at Rs 14.37 crore per acre. This will create third-party rights on the land, and the same is illegal as it violates the original sanction order of the government," the letter by the Bengaluru Urban Deputy Conservator of Forest said.

More than 5,800 papaya trees were uprooted after a swollen stream ravages the farm at Birala (K) in Jewargi taluk of Kalaburagi district on Friday.

Over 11,000 cusec of water was released downstream from Karanja dam in Bhalki taluk of Bidar district. The catchment of Karanja, a tributary of Manjra, has been experiencing heavy showers in the past few days. DH PHOTOS

Rain, swollen rivers bring misery to Kalyana Karnataka districts

BENGLAURU, DHNS

The fresh round of monsoon rains has left a trail of havoc in Kalyana Karnataka districts, where the incessant rains and overflowing rivers have submerged crops on thousands of acres and severely affected road traffic.

The showers continued to pound Kalaburagi, Yadgir and Bidar districts on Friday infusing life into the waterbodies.

A farmer from Birala (K) village in Jewargi taluk, Kalabuagi district, lost 5,800 papaya trees following the flooding of a stream. The farmer, Khaja Hussaini, had cultivated papaya on land taken on lease. The loss is estimated to be Rs 35 lakh. Farmers of several villages in Jewargi taluk have lost ready-to-harvest cotton due to flooding.

The Kalagi-Malghan road was closed for traffic on Friday following the flooding of a bridge on the stretch due to heavy outflow from Bennethora reservoir. The swollen Bennethora river has flooded several villages including Hale Hebbal, Kanasuru, Malghan, Tengali and Kalgurthi. A holiday has been declared at Donur government high primary school on Saturday due to flooding.

Crop loss on 1L hectares

The flood situation in Bidar district is no different. The overflowing Manjra and Karanja rivers have meandered their way to villages and farms. District Minister Eshwar Khandre on Friday took stock of the flood situation in several villages in Bhalki, Aurad and Kamalnagar taluks. Khandre said crops on over 1 lakh hectares have been damaged in the recent rains in the district. He instructed the officials to hold a crop damage survey and submit details in the portal in 10 days. He assured the affected farmers of taking steps to provide them with adequate compensation.

Meanwhile, flood alert has been raised in the villages and towns on the banks of downstream Tungabhadra river following increase in outflows. As much as 55,512 cusec of water was released from TB dam through 14 crest gates. With the dam receiving copious inflows, the outflow is expected to go further up in the next few days. Several monuments in Hampi and Anegundi have gone under floodwaters for the fifth time this season.

The coastal region and the Malnad districts have been experiencing heavy rain. Several villages in Honnavar taluk of Uttara Kannada districts faced flooding after 75,000 cusec of water was released into Sharavathi river from Gerusoppa dam. The villagers were moved to 15 gruel centres opened in the affected villages.

Heavy rain inundated the highway and roads in Bhatkal town, causing hardships to motorists. The stagnation of rainwater had affected traffic on Gokarna-Sirsi state highway at Madanageri village near Gokarna. A minor mudslide was reported at Colonel Hill in Honnavar.

Castle Rock in Uttara Kannada recorded a massive 200 mm of rain in the last 24 hours (ending 8.30 am on Friday)

Dakshina Kannada and Udupi district also saw intermittent spells of heavy rain on Friday.

Jog Falls regains glory

There is no respite from heavy rain in Shivamogga district, where the reservoirs are getting copious inflows. Linganamakki dam is just two feet away from reaching its full reservoir level. The outflows from the dam have infused life into the famed Jog Falls. Tunga, Bhadra and Mani dams are inching closer to their maximum levels.

Chikkamagaluru district is also witnessing heavy rain, throwing life out of gear.

Kodagu district has been witnessing heavy rain since Thursday evening. Schools and colleges in the district were declared holiday on Friday as a precautionary measure. The road to Wayanad at Thamarassery Ghat has been closed following landslides. The vehicles bound to Wayanad via Gudalur are taking detour via Gonikoppal-Kutupula-Irratti. Sampaje experienced 115 mm of rain while Bhagamandala and Virajpet saw 100 mm of rain in the last 24 hours.

No issues with Banu inaugurating Dasara: Imam

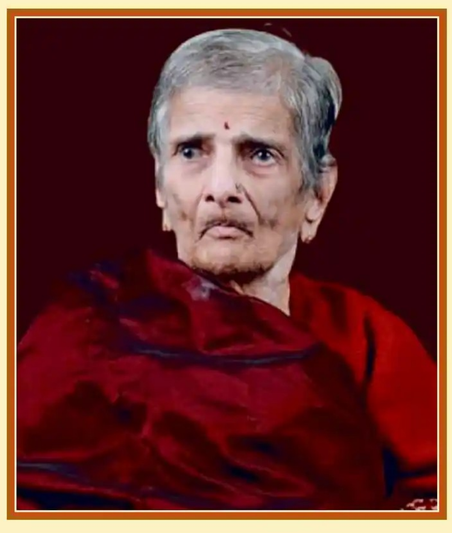
BENGALURU, DHNS: There are no issues with Banu Mushtaq inaugurating Nada Habba Mysuru Dasara, said Maulana Mohammed Maqsood Imran Rashadi, the chief imam of Jamia Masjid in the city.

Mushtaq, a renowned author, won the International Booker Prize recently.

Addressing a press conference, the imam said that people from all communities can participate in the Dasara celebrations, and it was wrong to politicise it. "In our country, everyone, including Hindus, Muslims and Christians, live in harmony. Here, there are temples, mosques, churches and gurudwaras. We do not have any discrimination," he said.

"Do Muslims become Hindus if they go to the temple? Do Hindus become Muslims if they go to the mosque? MLA Uday B Garudachar came to the mosque and offered prayers. Can we call him a Muslim? Banu Mushtaq has been invited to the inauguration of Dasara. It is up to her to decide whether she wants to go or not. But it is wrong to tell her not to go," he added.

| Om Namo Vasudevaya |



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Protect states' fiscal interests in GST rationalisation, CM tells Centre

'Karnataka already discriminated against in fund devolution'

NEW DELHI, DHNS

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday urged the Centre to safeguard the fiscal interests of states while moving ahead with the rationalisation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates.

"We are in favour of rationalising GST rates, simplifying compliance, and reducing the burden on people. But such reforms must be backed by a strong framework that protects states' revenues. Without this, states will struggle to sustain welfare and development programmes, leading to a serious weakening of their financial autonomy," Siddaramaiah said in a statement.

The Opposition parties have long criticised what they call the faulty implementation of GST since its rollout in 2017, repeatedly demanding rationalisation of rates.

Siddaramaiah noted that even within the GST Council, states have consistently pressed for rationalisation, but always with the caveat that their fiscal interests be safeguarded. Karnataka, he said, has raised this concern in multiple Council meetings.

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda with others during a meeting on the consultation on GST rate rationalisation, at Karnataka Bhavan in New Delhi on Saturday. PTI PHOTO

"For the long-term endurance and stability of GST, the Centre and states must work together. This requires taking states into confidence and addressing their concerns adequately. We expect the Union government to respond positively and engage in good faith, in the true spirit of cooperative federalism," he said.

Siddaramaiah also alleged that Karnataka has already faced "discrimination" in the devolution of Union government funds, suffering an annual shortfall of nearly Rs 25,000 crore. "Any further erosion of GST revenues will only compound this injustice and directly impact our ability to deliver on promises of development and welfare," he warned.

The chief minister urged that rationalisation must be accompanied by a robust revenue protection framework for states, the introduction of a supplementary levy on sin and luxury goods, and a guaranteed compensation mechanism for at least five years.

Should we build a wall like...

SOPs, From Page 1

The moment they come, they will have to explain their justifiable legal presence in India, said Mehta.

"We would like you to clarify that a certain bias in respect of the exercise of powers by authorities is sought to be demonstrated in this petition. Namely, the use of a particular language (Bengali) is a presumption of being a foreigner. Whether at all, it is correct or not, if you can clarify," Justice Bagchi asked.

The bench said it has been alleged that whoever is speaking Bangla is being targeted.

"No, this court is aware of the problem of illegal immigrants and the demographic changes," replied Mehta. "There are organisations and, unfortunately, there are governments which are supporting and thriving on illegal immigrants. We are trying to ensure that illegal immigrants do not eat away our resources, which we can divert to our own citizens."

The bench pointed out the issues associated with the porous border in Assam to West Bengal was reflected in a judgment, and there is an everyday problem of illegal entry. To this, Bhushan said the Border Security Force (BSF) cannot say that whoever we believe is Bangladeshi and push him or her out of the country without determining that he or she is a foreign citizen.

The bench asked the Centre for SOP and the procedure they follow.

Mehta said legal aid can be given and such public-spirited citizens are also required in America, where illegal immigrants are facing problems. On this, Justice Bagchi asked: "Are we supposed to build a wall like America?"

"No, we do not," Mehta said.

Concerned with decline in House discussion: Om Birla

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Friday stated that state Legislative Assemblies and Parliament are above politics, and that the dialogue and discussions taking place are concerning.

He was speaking at the National Conference of Chairperson of Committees of Parliament on the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at Bhubaneshwar.

Birla said lawmakers across the country must rise above party lines on issues of national interest.

He said that the decline in the number of sittings of legislatures and the disruptive behaviour of members in legislative bodies is a worrying trend, and that the decline in the level of discussion and dialogue in legislatures is a matter of concern.

"Parliamentary Committees play an important role; they are the backbone of parliamentary democracy. Unlike the political compulsions that drive debates in the House, Committees examine issues in detail, free from partisan politics, and arrive at consensus-based recommendations," he said.

Committees, particularly those dealing with the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, he said, scrutinise budgetary provisions minutely, evaluate the performance of schemes, and assess whether allocations have been fully and effectively utilised.

"Their reports not only hold the government accountable but also provide valuable guidance for course correction," he added.

GDP growth rises...

GDP growth, from Page 1

"The robust GDP numbers for Q1, pleasantly higher than estimated consensus note, is a tight hit on the rhetoric mimicking dead economy jibes. The Indian economy is alive and kicking well, largely unfettered by noise," said Soumya Kanti Ghosh, Group Chief Economic Advisor, State Bank of India.

According to analysts, higher government capital expenditure and ramp-up exports ahead of the implementation of the US tariff helped boost GDP growth during the first quarter of the current fiscal.

"Increased frontloading of capital expenditure by the states and the Centre (combined at 27.8% on-year during the quarter) played a major role in supporting growth. A ramp-up in exports prior to the imposition of the US tariff hikes also helped," said Dipti Deshpande, Principal Economist, Crisil.

However, India's export advantage would fade in the coming quarters because of the 50% tariff hikes imposed by the US. Alongside, a broader global slowdown triggered by the tariff actions could further dampen external demand, Deshpande added.

The government consumption expenditure jumped to 7.4% yoy in the first quarter of the current fiscal bouncing back from a contraction of 1.8% year-on-year recorded in the previous quarter.

The exports growth (goods and services) increased to 6.3% April-June quarter from 3.9% in the previous three-month period. The growth in exports was led by services.

India, Japan to deepen trade, security ties

Modi, From Page 1

China is engaged in disputes not only along its disputed boundary with India, but also in the East China Sea, South China Sea and the Taiwan Strait.

The two PMs "expressed serious concern over the situation in the East China Sea and the South China Sea", according to a joint statement issued after the meeting on Friday.

"They reiterated their strong opposition to any unilateral actions that endanger the safety as well as freedom of navigation and overflight, and attempt to change the status quo by force or coercion. They shared their serious concern over the militarisation of disputed features."

The two leaders also reaffirmed that maritime disputes must be resolved peacefully and in accordance with international law, in particular the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), according to the joint statement.

An Arbitral Tribunal constituted on a request from the Philippines under the UNCLOS delivered a unanimous decision in 2016, rejecting China's expansive claims in the South China Sea. China, however, declined to adhere to the award of the arbitral tribunal.

Modi subtly hit out at Beijing even as he would fly to Tianjin in northern China on Saturday to take part in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's summit. He would have a bilateral meeting with Xi on Sunday, the second between the two leaders after the end of the military stand-off in eastern Ladakh.

Modi and Ishiba announced the launch of a Japan-India AI Cooperation Initiative, which is aimed at deepening bilateral and multilateral cooperation on artificial intelligence.

They also announced the Next Generation Mobility Partnership (NGMP) as a framework for comprehensive cooperation in infrastructure, logistics and mobility, building on Japan's support to India's first high-speed rail corridor between Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

The two sides also agreed on an action plan to promote a two-way exchange of 5,00,000 people between India and Japan, particularly 50,000 skilled and semi-skilled personnel from India to Japan in the next five years.

With President Donald Trump imposing a 50% tariff on India's exports to the United States, Modi on Friday called upon industry leaders in Japan to invest more in India.

"Japanese companies have invested more than $40 billion in India. In the last two years alone, there has been private investment of $13 billion. JBIC says India is the most 'promising' destination. JETRO says 80% of companies want to expand in India, and 75% are already profitable," Modi said at a business event a few hours after he arrived in Tokyo. "Which means, in India, capital does not just grow, it multiplies!"

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TENDER NOTIFICATION

ISEC invites sealed tenders from Nationalized Banks for investment of Fixed Deposit for Rs.1.50 Crore for various tenure periods.
Last Date & Time for Submission:
On or before 08.09.2025, 17.30 Hrs.
For more details visit our website: www.isec.ac.in

ISEC-25616

Date: August 29, 2025
Sd/-
Accounts Officer

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Phone No: 08472-265546/47/48
email: deanmc-gb.kar@esic.nic.in

ENGAGEMENT OF ASSISTANT ENGINEER (CIVIL), ASSISTANT ENGINEER (ELECTRICAL), JUNIOR ENGINEER (CIVIL), JUNIOR ENGINEER (ELECTRICAL) ON CONTRACT BASIS

Applications are invited from Retired Engineers from Central / State PWD or CPSUs/PSUs for the posts of Assistant Engineer (Civil), Assistant Engineer (Electrical), Junior Engineer (Civil) and Junior Engineer (Electrical) on contract basis in Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), Regional Office, Bengaluru, Karnataka.
The details along with terms & conditions for engagement of engineers on contract basis are given below.

1	Post	(v) Assistant Engineer (Civil)-No.of posts: 01 (vi) Assistant Engineer (Electrical)-No.of posts: 01 (vii) Junior Engineer(Civil)– 04 (viii) Junior Engineer (Electrical)-No.ofposts:01
2	Place of Posting	(v) Assistant Engineer (Civil)- No.of posts: 01 (ESIC Model Hospital, Rajajinagar) (vi) Assistant Engineer(Electrical)- No.of posts: 01 (Regional Office-Bengaluru) (vii) Junior Engineer(Civil)– 04 (Regional Office -01, ESIC Model Hospital , Rajajinagar-01, ESIC Hospital Peenya-01, ESIC Hospital Gulbarga-01) (viii) Junior Engineer (Electrical)-No.of posts:01 (ESIC Hospital, Peenya)
3	Qualification	**Assistant Engineer (Civil) –** Degree/Diploma in Civil Engineering from recognized University/Institution. **Assistant Engineer (Electrical)**- Degree/Diploma in Electrical Engineering from recognized University/Institution. **Junior Engineer (Civil)–** Degree/Diploma in Civil Engineering from recognized University/ Institution. **Junior Engineer (Electrical)–** Degree/Diploma in Electrical Engineering from recognized University/Institution.
4	Eligibility	**Assistant Engineer (Civil):** Candidates who held the post of Assistant Engineer (Civil) or superior post at the time of retirement from Central/State PWD or CPSUs/PSUs **Assistant Engineer (Electrical)**- Candidates who held the post of Assistant Engineer (Electrical) or superior post at the time of retirement from Central/State PWD or CPSUs/ PSUs **Junior Engineer (Civil)** – Candidates who held the post of Junior Engineer (Civil) or superior post at the time of retirement from Central/State PWD or CPSUs/PSUs **Junior Engineer (Electrical):** Candidates who held the post of Junior Engineer (Electrical) or superior post at the time of retirement from Central/State PWD or CPSUs/PSUs. (Preference will be given to Retired Government Engineers having experience in building construction and maintenance.)
5	Maximum Age	64years as on **15.09.2025** (last date for submission of application)
6	Remuneration	For retired employees from pensionable Government employment, Consolidated monthly remuneration as per extant Government norms. The admissible amount would be computed by deducting pension amount from the last drawn salary. For retired employees from non-pensionable Government or Semi- Government employment like Autonomous bodies, PSUs etc., consolidated monthly remuneration as given below would be admissible: **For Assistant Engineer : Rs 45,000/- per month.** **For Junior Engineer : Rs 33,630/- per month.** In addition, they are entitled to TA/DA for tours undertaken for official works, at rates applicable to regular Assistant Engineers/Junior Engineers.
7	**Mode of Selection**	**Interview**
8.	Date of Interview	Date and time of the Interview shall be fixed and intimated to the Shortlisted candidates in due course.
9.	Venue for Interview	**ESI Corporation, Regional Office, No.10, Tank Bund Road, Binnypet, Bengaluru- 560023.**
10	Last date for Submission of application	Candidates should submit the duly filled in application form (Annexure-A) either by post/ hand/e-mail on or before **15.09.2025.** Application through E-mail may be sent to pmd-ro.kar@esic.gov.in Application through Speedpost may be addressed to **Executive Engineer (PMD), ESI Corporation, Regional Office, No.10, Tank Bund Road,Binnypet Bengaluru-560023.** Application by hand may be submitted at the Property Management Division (PMD) ESI Corporation, Regional Office, No.10, Tank Bund Road,Binnypet, Bengaluru-560023. Annexure-A & Annexure-I available at https://esic.gov.in/recruitments and https://rokarnataka.esic.gov.in/recruitmentsunder Recruitments Tab. Application should contain Mobile Number and e-mail ID. Call letters for Interview will be issued through e-mail only.
11	Leave Eligibility	Maximum of one day leave for every month of completed service in Addition to Government Holidays. No other leave with pay would be admissible.
12	Other Conditions	A. Selected candidates will be required to sign an Agreement as per ESIC Headquarters' Letter No. Pt.PS/SE-V/Sta- Matter/2013-PMD dated 08.03.2018 (Annexure-I). B. Tenure of contract is one year which will be extendable further on yearly basis based on satisfactory performance or until the appointment of a regular incumbent, whichever is earlier. However, no extension shall be granted beyond the age of 65 years. **Note:** Candidates are required to bring all their certificates or documents in original along with two sets of self-attested photocopies on the date of Interview.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 30-08-2025

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (PMD) FOR REGIONAL DIRECTOR
REGIONALOFFICE, ESIC, KARNATAKA

ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರ ರಾಜ್ಯ ವಿಮಾ ನಿಗಮ
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email: deanmc-gb.kar@esic.nic.in

ADMISSION NOTIFICATION - 2025-26

ADMISSIONS FOR B.SC IN ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCE(AHS) COURSES UNDER "INSURED PERSONS (IPs) QUOTA" AT ESIC INSTITUTE OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES, KALABURAGI, KARNATAKA FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-26

1) Applications are invited from eligible and interested candidates for admission to B.Sc in Allied Health Science (AHS) Courses under "Insured Persons (IP) quota at "ESIC Institute of Allied Health Sciences, Kalaburagi, Karnataka" for the Academic Year 2025-26. The details of the courses offered and qualification required is as below-

Sl. No.	Courses offered / Seats in Allied Health Sciences	Qualification st Eligibility criteria (for 1 year admission)	
1	B.Sc MLT (Medical Lab Technology) - 08 Seats	**Pass in PCB**	A candidate seeking admission to the Bachelor of Science degree courses in the Allied Health Sciences course from Sl. No 1 to 4 shall have studied English as one of the principal subject during PUC/ 10+2/ 12th Std. 1. Two year Pre-University examination or equivalent as recognized by Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences with Physics, Chemistry and Biology as principal subjects of study. In case of admission to B.Sc Optometry the candidate should have passed Pre-University or equivalent examination with PCB/PCM as principal subjects of study. 2. Pre-Degree course from a recognized University considered as equivalent by RGUHS, (Two years after ten years of schooling) with Physics, Chemistry and Biology as principal subjects of study. 3. Any equivalent examination recognized by the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bangalore for the above purpose with Physics, Chemistry and Biology as principal subjects of study. 4. The vocational higher secondary education course conducted by Vocational Higher Secondary Education, Government of Kerala with five subjects including Physics, Chemistry, Biology and English in addition to vocational subjects conducted is considered equivalent to plus two examinations of Government of Karnataka Pre- University course. The candidate shall have passed individually in each of the principal subjects.
2	B.Sc AOTT (Anaesthesia and OperationTheater Technology) – 08 Seats		
3	B.Sc MIT (Imaging Technology) – 08 Seats		
4	B.Sc Optometry - 16 Seats	**40% in PCB/ PCM**	

2) A candidate with PCM in 10+2/PUC and 40% and above has to apply for only B.Sc in optometrist course. Whereas, a candidate with PCB is eligible to apply for all of the above courses.
   - Duration of the Course : 03(three)years followed by 01 year compulsory internship (asperthe instructions of university/RGUHS).
   - Duration of ESIC Bond Service: One year (as per the instructions of ESIC Hqrs. office)
3) The Eligibility of Insured Person for availing benefit under the "Insured Persons Quota" for his/her child/children would be 31.03.2025.
4) The age of the dependent male "Ward of IP" for eligibility under the "Insured Persons Quota" should not be more than 21 years as on last date of submission of application. The said date would not apply to dependent unmarried female ward of IP as per provisions of the ESI Act, 1948.
5) Number of seats under the Ward of IP Quota is given in the admission notice enclosed.
6) Reservation policy as per Central Government will be followed.
7) Applications to be submitted through e-mail only to deanmc-gb.kar@esic.nic.in, other means of submission will be not be considered.
8) Last date for receipt of applications will be 02.09.2025 by 11:59 PM.
9) The candidates are informed to go through the tentative schedule for admissions 2025-26.
10) The candidates are advised to continuously visit the ESIC website for updates as separate communication may not be possible. For more details kindly visit www.esic.gov.in/admissions.

Sd/- DEAN
ESICMC & H, Kalaburagi

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ROCK MECHANICS
(An Autonomous Research Institute under Ministry of Mines, Govt of India)
Outer Ring Road, Eshwar Nagar, BSK-2nd Stage,
Bengaluru-560 070, Phone: 080–26934400, 26934402-14
E-mail: dto@nirm.in Website: https://nirm.in

Advt. No. NIRM/Advt./01/2025-26 Date: 28-08-2025

VACANCY FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR

The Institute: The National Institute of Rock Mechanics (NIRM), established in 1988 under the Ministry of Mines, Government of India, is a premier research organization specializing in both fundamental and applied aspects of rock mechanics. It provides expert services to sectors such as mining, civil, hydroelectric, nuclear power, and infrastructure, with a strong focus on underground space engineering and tunnelling. NIRM's core competencies include Engineering Geology, Geophysics, Seismology, Seismotectonics, Geotechnical Engineering, In-situ Rock Mass Testing, Rock Fracture Mechanics, Numerical Modelling, Rock Blasting and Excavation, Mine Design, Tunnel Engineering, and Geotechnical Instrumentation and Monitoring. The Institute operates from its Head Office in Bengaluru and its Registered Office at Kolar Gold Fields, serving as a national center for advanced geotechnical research and consultancy.

The Job Profile: The Director serves as the Principal Executive Officer, overseeing the Institute's comprehensive operations and strategizing its future direction to achieve its core objectives. The Director is tasked with steering the Institute toward growth, establishing it as a Center of Excellence, and ensuring its financial self-sustainability.

The Candidate: The candidate should be a dynamic and competent scientist / engineer / technologist with outstanding contributions in the area of rock mechanics. The requirements for the post are as follows:

Essential Qualification	1st Class B.E./B.Tech. or 1st Class M.Tech/M.E. in Mining/Civil Engineering(or) 1st Class Post Graduate in Earth Sciences.
Desirable	Ph.D in Mining/Civil/Earth Sciences related to rock mechanics/geotechnical engineering.
Experience	20 years or more experience in research/ teaching/industry, with outstanding contribution in rock mechanics/geotechnical/ mining/civil engineering projects including five years of service at Pay Level 13-A or equivalent (7th CPC)
Scale of Pay	Pay Level-14 (7th CPC)
Age	Upto 58 years (as on the closing date of applications)

Method of Recruitment : Direct Recruitment/ Deputation / Short-term Contract.

Nature of appointment: The offer of appointment shall be on contract initially for a period of 5 (five) years from the date of assumption of charge, or till superannuation upon attaining the age of 60 years, whichever is earlier. The incumbent will be on probation for a period of one year.

Criteria for re-appointment: The contract can be renewed for next 5 (Five) years or till superannuation upon attaining the age of 60 years, whichever is earlier, on approval from the Governing Body on the basis of : (1) Annual Appraisal Reports, (2) Evaluation Record of each year, (3) Record of Publications, Reports, Patents, etc., (4) Contribution made for development of the Institute, (5) Recognition received from outside agencies in the form of S&T and Sponsored Research Projects, awards, etc., (6) Character and conduct of the incumbent.

Selection Procedure: Selection of the Director will be done by the Search-cum-Selection Committee which may also consider contact/ nominated candidates for the post. Candidates called for the interview will be reimbursed return air fare by Economy Class.

The Package: The perquisites include accommodation, car with driver and consultancy as per NIRM's rules.

How to Apply: Applications should be made in the prescribed format that can be downloaded from the Institute's website https://nirm.in. Duly filled in application form with copies of proof of age, qualification, experience etc, along with a fee of Rs.1000/- by DD drawn in favor of NIRM (payable at State Bank of India, Kumaraswamy Layout Branch, Bengaluru) may be forwarded to the Controller of Administration, NIRM, at the Institute's Head office address. A copy of the same may also be sent to the Joint Secretary (S&T), Ministry of Mines (Govt. of India), 3rd Floor, D-Wing, Shastri Bhavan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi – 110 001. Applications from persons employed in Central/State Government/PSUs/Universities/Autonomous Bodies should be forwarded through proper channel. Candidates sending advance application are required to produce No Objection Certificate at the time of Interview. The candidates intending to join on deputation will be governed by rules of the GOI on the subject.

Last Date: The last date for receipt of applications is 15-10-2025. Short-listed candidates may have to attend an interactive process at New Delhi, on the date and at the venue which will be intimated to them.

Note: The application form and other details including any updates in this regard can be downloaded from the NIRM's website (https://nirm.in).

Sd/- Controller of Administration

DECCAN HERALD
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Regulation risks curb on free speech

The Supreme Court's directive to the government to formulate a framework for regulation of free speech on social media is problematic because such regulations may become curbs. The Court's view that the right to free speech should be exercised with due respect for the right to dignity of all communities and in accordance with obligations to society is unexceptionable. A citizen's rights and obligations are mutually reinforcing. But the direction to frame guidelines enables the government to set limits for free speech. This is particularly so in light of the distinction the Court made between free speech and commercial speech and its observation that those who indulge in commercial speech, such as social media influencers, podcasters, etc., cannot claim protection under the right to free speech. It is a contentious view that may be misused by the government.

The Court issued the directive in a case regarding offensive remarks made by comedians on social media against persons with disabilities. It was right to point out that marginalised communities should not be ridiculed or subjected to offensive humour. But the Constitution does not mention "commercial content" as among exceptions from freedom of speech and expression. There is no definition of commercial speech either. To entrust the government with powers to define it and to prescribe the boundaries of free speech based on that definition is risky. Humour can be different in different personal, social, and cultural situations – the government cannot be the authority which decides what is humour and what is not. Existing laws can be invoked when disadvantaged and marginalised communities are verbally ridiculed or insulted. It is not necessary to create a new set of guidelines that risk major restrictions on free speech.

Existing laws have enough teeth. Government-prescribed guidelines will dilute the right

The distinction between commercial and non-commercial speech is not always clear. Since the dividing line is vague, a law against commercial speech may end up constraining free speech and is likely to be interpreted by the police and other authorities to suit their interests. The government has in various ways tried to curb free speech. While guidelines are crucial to ensure accountability, it must be noted that exceptions in Article 19(2) already make such responsibilities clear. The Supreme Court has, through decades, expanded the scope of freedom of speech and shielded the right. It is uncharacteristic of it to ask the government to take measures to regulate free speech on unconvincing grounds. If the abuse of the right is a concern, the remedy is not in a law that curbs the very right.

Classes, coaches and missed lessons

The Comprehensive Modular Survey (CMS) on Education, conducted by the government early this year, reveals some unhealthy trends in India's schooling system. It shows that about 27% of India's school-going children had private coaching in the current academic year – 30.7% in urban areas and 25.5% in rural areas. In classes 11 and 12, 37% of the students take private classes. Urban households spend about Rs 4,000 a year on coaching. The spending in rural areas is lower but significant. It rises to Rs 10,000 for higher-secondary students. These numbers indicate a parallel education system. While they reflect the anxiety of parents about their children's education, they also reveal a lack of confidence in the mainstream schooling system. Competition and peer pressure are also factors that drive students to tuition centres. Private coaching, aimed at helping children overcome their academic challenges, are also known to mount pressure on them. School hours followed by private classes and homework can make a punishing schedule, leaving little time to relax or play. A healthy balance can be ensured by improving the trust in mainstream education, thereby reducing the dependence on external coaching.

The dependence on private coaching also reflects a lack of confidence in the schooling system

The survey shows a declining trend in State school enrolment, falling from about 74% in the 1970s to 51-56% today. But CMS 2025 also underlines the significance of State-run schools in terms of expenditure – while the average annual cost of educating a child in a private school is Rs 25,000, it is Rs 2,863 in State schools. Government schools have lost out to private institutions in most parts of the country, except in states such as Kerala, and Delhi, where efforts were made in the last few years to improve the standards in government schools. The irony is that even after paying high fees in private schools, parents send children to private classes. The fall in enrolment in State-run schools is worrisome and warrants renewed focus and investment.

Apart from tuition centres that have come up across the country and private coaching at homes, bigger institutes offering targeted coaching for professional courses to thousands of students in hubs such as Kota, in Rajasthan, have come to symbolise the boom. Functioning of some of these centres has come under the scanner for the stress the schedules and expectations cause to the students, even leading some of them to suicide. Regulatory oversight has not been effective. There could be a solution in strengthening the school system, by realigning goals and methods towards wholesome and more personalised learning.

TAX AND CONTROL

Tariffs as weapons: History has warnings

India's pursuit of the deal with a protectionist US cannot come at the cost of its agricultural and dairy industries

ROGER MARSHALL

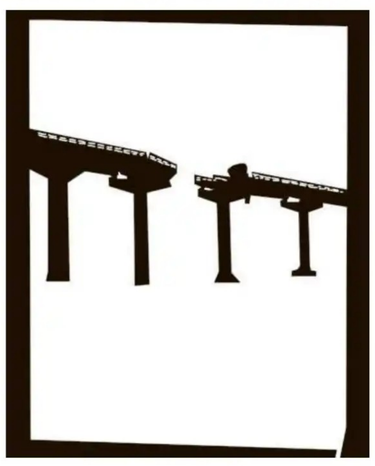
Sector-specific US tariffs targeting another country's industry such as automotive parts can have drastic economic consequences for the industry and its workers. For example, in 2009, increased tariffs on tires imported from China led to a 67% drop in the volume of Chinese tire imports. However, huge tariffs, when applied to all sectors of an economy, can ruin the entire country and cause significant unemployment and social unrest, perhaps leading to regime change. In the 19th century, a 'century of humiliation' as the Chinese describe it, when the Emperor of China banned opium across the country, British traders, upset by the loss of revenue from exporting to China huge quantities of opium cultivated in India, convinced their government to wage war on China and force the country to change its trade policies. Today, any country which tries to regulate Silicon Valley's monopolistic practices, be it in crypto ventures, e-commerce, or social media, is immediately faced with huge increases in US tariffs.

When tariffs are used as a weapon against a country, they are bound to result in massive disruptions to the country's society at large. These are asymmetrical weapons that may rely more on disruptive impact than destructive kinetic effects. For example, cyber attacks on commercial information systems or attacks against transportation networks may have a greater economic or psychological effect than a relatively small release of nerve gas.

The sudden raising of tariff rates or the imposition of new tariffs is often dictated by geopolitical considerations. The West tends to use them more to achieve foreign policy objectives than financial ones. A good example is Trump's proposal to levy a 50% tariff based on his claim that Brazil was conducting a "witch hunt" against former far-right president Jair Bolsonaro, who is facing prosecution over his alleged role in a plot to overturn the 2022 election. Another example is the imposition of huge tariffs on countries such as Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam, all of which border China, as part of America's China containment policy. And, of course, the 50% tariff on India for buying oil from Russia.

Two of the more consequential tariff-related postings of Donald Trump on his Truth Social platform are directed at Brazil ("hundreds of secret and unlawful censorship orders on US social media platforms") and Canada ("they are putting a Digital Services Tax on our American Technology Companies").

Yet, Trump had no problem in banning TikTok in the US or prohibiting the use of Huawei telecommunications equipment on government networks.



Trump's American Technology Companies which include Amazon, Alphabet, Microsoft, and Palantir provide a range of services and software such as digital and biometric surveillance, AI for military operations, and predictive policing technology in support of Empire – the new missionaries of the 21st century promoting greed, thought control, and consumerism in one tidy package.

In October 2022, Russia's financial monitoring agency, Rosfinmonitoring, added US tech giant Meta Platforms to its list of "terrorists and extremists". Whether it is the American Empire or the British Empire, these days, the game plan to gain entry into closed foreign markets has always been economic penetration through private companies, potentially followed by diplomatic or military intervention when those interests are threatened.

A dangerous trade-off

Given that India and the US are in negotiations to strike a bilateral trade deal, it is important for India, whose economy is mostly based on agriculture and dairy farming, to remember the lessons of history. India should recognise that the draconian US laws on Intellectual Property are really protectionism in disguise. This is especially true of the pharmaceutical sector where India is the world's foremost supplier of generic drugs to the Global South, and that Trump's plan to impose huge tariffs on this sector would have a considerable impact on the health and well-being of citizenry across the globe.

The US Tariff of 1828, which set very high taxes on imported goods, was dubbed the "Tariff of Abominations" by the agrarian southern states because of its effect on their economies and intensified tensions between northern and southern states prior to the Civil War. The 1930 Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, enacted shortly after the Great Depression of 1929, raised tariffs on over 20,000 imported goods in an effort to shield American industries from foreign competition; it only exacerbated the Depression because the US' trading partners retaliated with tariffs of their own. I doubt very much if the EU, Japan, and the East-Asian nations will do likewise during the current crisis.

When autocrats such as Trump unilaterally raise tariffs to please their corporate sponsors and their largely ignorant support base, they rarely take into account the global impact of their policies. It remains to be seen whether India, in pursuit of a bilateral FTA with the US, will sacrifice its agricultural and dairy industries to further its aspirations to become the third largest economy in the world, ahead of Germany and Japan. If an India-US FTA were to be agreed upon without involving the agricultural sector, you can be assured the US will impose huge tariffs on the sector. The US, a 'law and order' society, is the most bellicose nation on earth.

Given that the punitive tariffs imposed on India are politically motivated, the country can retaliate by shutting down the offices of Big Tech and banning their software across the country. A small-framed bespectacled man from Gujarat rescued the country from Britain some eighty years ago. It remains to be seen if another man, also from Gujarat, has the guts to deliver India from the American Empire.

(The writer is a retired professor; he has written extensively and presented lectures on the societal and geo-political implications of technology)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

Googly over goals

Between being stumped and left out, I think cricket just bowled me over

M K ANANTHA SWAMY

I am not sure what first drew me to cricket. It was over eight decades ago, when I was 10 or 12. Perhaps it was a natural leap from gilli-dandu to gully cricket. Perhaps it was the excitement of gathering newspaper clippings featuring Bradman, Hammond, Compton, and Lindwall for our scrapbooks. Or the thrill of live radio commentaries crackling through A F S Talyarkhan's and A S D'Mello's voices.

I began playing cricket after joining the Students Gymkhana—a B-league team in the old Mysore State. By my late teens, I was a supporting spinner for my college team, armed with a modest googly. I took a few wickets but did not score many runs, never reaching a fifty.

In college, I had three close friends: Fazlullah, Benjamin, and Nagaraj Setty. The first two swore by football. Nagaraj and I stood firmly with cricket. We shared everything—except sporting allegiance.

In our final year, we visited Sahyadri College in Shimoga for friendly matches—cricket, football, and table tennis. Unfortunately, we had only ten players each for cricket and football. Fazlullah was persuaded to play cricket; I was convinced to play football.

Fazlullah listened earnestly as I explained how not to hold the bat like an axe. First ball—he swung, missed, overbalanced, and was stumped. He came back looking betrayed.

The next day was my football debut. "Which leg do you kick with?" asked the captain. "Left?" I guessed. "Then you play left out," he said. I had no clue—he was just being accurate.

As we mingled before kickoff, a Shimoga player asked, "What's your position?" I replied, "Usually left out of the team." He smiled and nodded.

From the first whistle to the final one, the match was a flurry of motion. However, two people never touched the ball: the referee and me.

That settled it. Fazlullah swore off cricket. I never returned to football.

Fast forward 35 years— I was deeply involved in establishing The Valley School in Bengaluru. We had to choose between cricket and football coaching. The children leaned toward cricket; the male teachers preferred football. We invited a football coach named Kichcha to speak. He bounced the ball off his head, chest, knees, and feet—pure showmanship.

"Why do you prefer cricket?" he asked the children.

"Football is too rough," said one. "Too fast," said another. "You don't have to use your brains much," added a third.

Smiling, Kichcha replied, "Football is the only game where you're officially allowed to use your head." The room erupted in laughter.

In the early 2000s, even my three-year-old granddaughter joined the craze. She mimicked cricket umpires and later cheered for her father's football team with equal passion.

And me? I still have not made up my mind. But between being stumped and left out, I think cricket just bowled me over.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UKP: Consensus non-negotiable

Apropos 'UKP: Consensus tough but necessary' (Aug 29), the Upper Krishna Project holds transformative potential for North Karnataka. However, resolving the land compensation gridlock is crucial for its progress. Fairness to landowners and fiscal prudence must go hand in hand. Neither undervaluing human displacement nor overcommitting state finances will serve the cause. A pragmatic balance, guided by law, transparency, and empathy, is essential. Rehabilitation must offer more than compensation; it must offer dignity. Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar's call for broader consultations is timely. Consensus may be tough, but it is non-negotiable. The UKP is not just a project; it's a promise of water, livelihood, and regional equity. Karnataka must treat it as such and act with both urgency and foresight.
K Chidanand Kumar, Bengaluru

Policy of convenience

Apropos 'Didn't suggest someone should retire at 75 – Bhagwat' (Aug 29), a recent remark by RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat suggesting politicians consider retirement after 75 sparked a reaction from the opposition Congress. They implied Bhagwat was referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who will turn 75 next month. Bhagwat has since clarified that he didn't suggest retirement at 75 for anyone. The BJP had an unwritten policy of not aspiring for office after 75, but this was breached when B S Yediyurappa became chief minister after crossing the threshold. The policy seemed designed to pave the way for Modi by easing out veterans. It's unlikely the PM will step down after turning 75.
C V Aravind, Bengaluru

Look for alternatives

The United States' imposition of tariffs under Donald Trump's presidency has raised concerns in India. Trump's recent remarks about India have crossed a limit that any country can tolerate. Given the current trade tensions, it might be prudent for India to reassess its trade relations with the US and explore alternative options. The ongoing jet engine deal with General Electric for the Light Combat Aircraft is crucial for India's defence preparedness. However, anticipating potential disruptions, India should consider alternative sources, such as the French company Safran or Russia, to ensure the long-term plans for improving the Air Force's capability are not impaired.
S Kamat, Mysuru

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

If there is no one to protect India's borders, if people from another country are entering daily in the hundreds of thousands, eyeing our mothers and sisters, and grabbing our land - then firstly, Amit Shah's head should be cut off and placed on the table...

Mahua Moitra, TMC MP

What I lack in decorum, I make up for with an absence of tact.

Donald E William Jr

TO BE PRECISE

In India, capital does not just grow, it multiplies: PM in Tokyo

IN PERSPECTIVE

Behind India's data paradox

The gains from a strong digital architecture have not translated into efficient, evidence-based governance

SUDIPTA P KASHYAP

Despite India's robust digital infrastructure and statistical legacy, policymaking often remains divorced from credible, transparent data. How has politicisation, data opacity, and top-down governance continued to undermine the promise of evidence-based policy?

Peter Drucker once said, "What gets measured, gets managed", emphasising on the role of quantifiable data for policy targeting but what he overlooks is the role of quality and accuracy of this data. Where once the biggest challenge was statistical sampling, today, the crisis lies deeper in the politicisation and lack of transparency in policy-making. In 2019, the government withheld the release of a nationwide consumption expenditure survey for the first time in decades citing reasons of data quality. However, the data merely showed trends of decline in household consumption, especially in rural areas, that could negatively affect political performance indicators. Are our current policies still based on assumptions and not realities? Is there any scope for evidence-based policies in the future?

With a rich statistical legacy built on the contributions of P C Mahalanobis and institutions such as the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) and National Sample Survey (NSS), the statistical machinery in India is undeniably massive and well-equipped. Despite this robust system, the data quality, frequency, and independence have shown worrying decline. Former chief economic adviser Arvind Subramanian has stated that India's GDP numbers between 2011-12 and 2016-17 were overestimated by about 2.5 percentage points annually and called for a revamp of the country's statistical system. This captures rightly his concerns that such data distortions aren't just technical or calculation issues but play an important role in reshaping public perception, policy design, and investor confidence.

India's data paradox has become more relevant than ever now, due to multiple CAG reports on the overreporting of data and incomplete record-keeping relating to multiple flagship schemes (the CAG found over 42 lakh ineligible farmers receiving payments under PM-KISAN, pointing to a troubling disconnect between digital reach and on-ground verification), questionable GDP rebasing, and disparity in unemployment numbers. While it is absolutely clear that evidence-based policies are the way ahead, they have been failing over a decade due to the lack of bureaucratic data literacy, the absence of an outcome-based evaluation of policies, and missing feedback loops. Even though such issues sound trivial, they are a clear representation of India's top-down governance that we aim to change through federal structures.

Revamping processes

However, one would be on the wrong to assume data deficiency as a problem in achieving this. India has created an impressive architecture of digital platforms through Aadhaar (identity), DigiLocker (document storage), and the JAM Trinity (Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, Mobile). However, collection and storage of large data does not necessarily translate to decisions informed by that data, describing India's digital governance as data-rich, insight-poor. The myth of digital governance as a substitute to evidence-based policy often results in techno-managerial solutions imposed without context where systems end up collecting performance data but not the impact data. India has built a digital infrastructure fit for the 21st century, but it still governs with the instincts of the 20th century – centralised, opaque, and resistant to feedback. Until digital data is used to question policy, not just decorate it, the promise of evidence-based governance will remain a myth.

It is important to recognise that building a culture of evidence-based policy is not only about numbers, but also about process. Data systems need to be complemented by greater coordination between ministries, wider consultation with independent experts, and mechanisms for continuous feedback from both states and citizens. Without these, even high-quality data risks being underutilised. The challenge, therefore, is less about the absence of data and more about ensuring that it is meaningfully utilised in everyday governance.

The situation is not entirely bleak. India's digital governance infrastructure has laid a strong foundation for data-driven policymaking. However, what is missing is the political and institutional will to use it transparently and accountably. Globally, countries that have adopted independent statistical commissions and autonomous evaluation units have seen better public trust in numbers and course correction in policies. Mandatory impact assessments for major schemes and laws inspired by the best practices in developed economies, open access to all micro-level data, and institutionalising the feedback loops though formal independent policy evaluation cells in concerned ministries will go a long way in bringing evidence-based policies to reality. Ultimately, for a democracy that prides itself on accountability, evidence cannot remain optional.

(The writer has worked in parliamentary offices, think tanks, and development organisations on issues of trade policy, environmental economics, gender, and governance)

25-YEAR JOURNEY OF GST

2000 — The **A B Vajpayee** government sets up a committee to design a GST model

2004 — The **Vijay Kelkar** committee recommends replacing the existing indirect tax structure with GST

2006 — Finance Minister **P Chidambaram** sets April 1, 2010, as the GST rollout deadline

2008 — A committee comprising state finance ministers is constituted to lay out the **GST roadmap**

2009 — Finance Minister **Pranab Mukherjee** announces the GST basic structure

2011 — **The Constitution (115th Amendment) Bill** for the GST implementation is introduced in Parliament

2014 — The Bill lapses as Lok Sabha is dissolved, The **Narendra Modi government introduces new Bill**

2016 — The new Bill is passed by Parliament. **The Constitution (101st Amendment) Act, 2016,** comes into force on September 8, 2016

2017 — **GST rolled out** on June 30-July 1, 2017 midnight, barring J&K

2025 — **PM announces GST reforms**

Quest for a Good and Simple Tax

GYANENDRA KESHRI
DH NEWS SERVICE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had described Goods and Services Tax (GST) as a "good and simple tax" while addressing a special session of Parliament, held on June 30-July 1, 2017, midnight to mark the roll-out of indirect tax reform. "It's good because it liberates us from layers of taxation, and it's simple because it is uniformly implemented across India," Modi had said.

However, it has not turned out to be so good and simple, so far. While the GST has resulted in structural changes in the country's indirect tax system by merging the central and state taxes, uniformity and liberation from layers remain wishful thinking.

Multiple layers of taxation exist. At present, there are five key GST slabs – 0% (nil rated), 5%, 12%, 18% and 28%. There are special rates of 0.25%, 1.5% and 3% on precious metals and jewellery. In addition to these, there are multiple cesses and surcharges. There is also a complex process of sharing the revenue between the centre and the states. This makes GST a complex architecture.

The need for reform in the GST has been underlined by industry, small businesses and political parties time and again. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has often used the complexity of GST and termed it as "Gabbar Singh Tax" to attack the economic policy of the BJP-led Union government

So, over eight years after its rollout, the prime minister has now announced his government's plan to reform the GST to lower the tax burden on people.

This is not the first time the government has talked about the GST reform. A group of ministers (GoM) on GST rate rationalisation was formed in September 2021, under then Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai. The panel had submitted an interim report to the GST Council in June 2022, proposing changes in tax rates and rationalisation of the levy.

The GST rate rationalisation panel was reconstituted in October 2023, with Uttar Pradesh Finance Minister Suresh Kumar Khanna as the convenor. The

> The government will bring in Next Generation GST reforms, which will lower the tax burden on the common people. It will be a Diwali gift for you all.
>
> **Narendra Modi**
> Prime Minister

panel was reconstituted again in June 2024, with Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary replacing Khanna as convenor.

The GoM, however, has not delivered on its mandate in the past four years. However, the prime minister's announcement from the Red Fort has added momentum to the process. The six-member GoM that includes West Bengal Finance Minister Chandrima Bhattacharya, Karnataka Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda, Kerala Finance Minister K N Balagopal, Uttar Pradesh Finance Minister Suresh Kumar Khanna and Rajasthan Health Minister Gajendra Singh, besides Choudhary as convenor, met in New Delhi days after the announcement by the prime minister.

According to Choudhary, the panel has agreed to recommend the scrapping of 12% and 28% GST tax slabs and consolidate the items in these slabs to 5% and 18% rates. This is in line with the central government's proposal. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that the GST reforms would provide relief to the common people, farmers, middle class and MSMEs.

Opposition-ruled states have voiced concerns over the loss of revenue due to the proposed GST reforms. They have also voiced apprehensions that the benefits of the rate cut may be pocketed by businesses instead of being passed on to the end consumers. The states have pegged the annual revenue loss at Rs 2 lakh crore. While the independent research also points to a substantial revenue loss, a part of it may be offset by a boost in consumption. As per SBI Research, the average annual revenue loss is likely to be around Rs 85,000 crore.

The decisions on the GST reforms and the rate rationalisation are likely to be taken by the GST Council in its upcoming meeting scheduled to be held in New Delhi on September 3 and 4.

The GST reform push by the Modi government comes at a time when the economy is facing serious challenges due to the imposition of high tariffs by the US on imports from India. The quality and pace of GST reforms will be critical to cushion the Indian economy from the US tariff shocks.

Simplifying Slabs, Rationalising Rates

GST 1.0: Current Structure

A four-slab system
5%, 12%, 18%, 28%

Special rates:
- **3%** on gold, silver, diamond and jewellery
- **1.5%** on cut and polished diamonds
- **0.25%** on rough diamonds

Compensation cess at varying rates on tobacco products, aerated drinks, and motor vehicles

GST 2.0: Proposed Reforms
- Simplifying the existing four-slab system to a **two-slab structure of 5% and 18%**
- Most items in the **12%** and **28%** slabs will shift to the **5%** and **18%** slabs, respectively
- **A new slab of 40%** is proposed to be levied on luxury products, tobacco and online gaming

Concerns of the States:
- Reforms may cause substantial revenue loss, impacting finances for essential public services and welfare schemes.
- Reasonable estimates pegged the revenue loss from the proposed rate rationalisation at Rs 1.5-2 lakh crore, with 71% of this loss to be incurred by the states, according to Karnataka Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda.
- Some states are under financial stress due to the end of the compensation cess provided by the Centre for five years, and are demanding extensions

The GST council will meet in New Delhi on September 3 and 4, 2025, to discuss proposed reforms.

GST Collection doubles in 5 years

COMPILED BY **GYANENDRA KESHRI**, DHNS

States' revenue must be protected

KRISHNA BYRE GOWDA

Karnataka and all other states, irrespective of the political parties in power, support the move for GST rate rationalisation. But we seek protection from the resultant loss of revenues.

The states are constitutionally entrusted with the majority of developmental responsibilities. However, the majority of revenue sources are entrusted to the Centre. So, any further shock to the revenues of the states will affect public welfare, fiscal federalism and their autonomous functioning.

Before the introduction of the GST, Karnataka was experiencing a robust growth of around 15% in its VAT revenues. The VAT revenues from items later subsumed into the GST amounted to 3.6% of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP). If the state's GST revenues had grown at 13%, continuing the growth trend before GST, it should have had a GST revenue of Rs 1,07,846 crore in 2024-25. However, it got Rs 86,475 crore – a loss of Rs 21,371 crore in one year. During the same period, the state's share of devolution and grants (both from the Centre) has been cut from 31.4% to 22.7% of its total revenue receipts. Karnataka is, therefore, losing close to Rs 40,000 crore per year. All these have occurred during the years when the state's growth has been higher than the national growth, and its GST growth has been among the top three in the country.

While introducing the GST, the states and the Centre had agreed that the rate of GST should be the same as the combined taxes before GST (array of VAT, central excise, etc.). The weighted average of pre-GST taxes (revenue-neutral rate, in other words) was estimated to be around 14%. Net rate of GST has already been brought down from 14.4% at the time of GST introduction to about 11% by rate cuts, mostly led by the Centre.

The Centre has neither shared with us an estimation of revenue loss nor has it provided us time to make a realistic estimate. Now, we are rushed to make a decision. Financial institutions and experts have estimated revenue loss from current proposals to be between Rs 85,000 crore and over Rs 2,00,000 crore. The Centre's GST revenues account for 28% of its Own Tax Revenue. But the states' dependence on GST is far higher, contributing 50% of their Own Tax Revenue. This will cause a permanent shock to the states' fiscal capacity and autonomy.

A Group of Ministers (GoM) had submitted a set of recommendations on rate rationalisation last year. Now, without any consultation, the Centre has placed a completely new proposal. The estimate of loss is not shared; sufficient time is not allowed; nothing happens for nine months; and then, everything should be decided and done in a month. This is hardly a model for cooperative federalism.

Yet, we are ready to cooperate with the Centre for the benefit of people. All we seek is protection for the states from the significant revenue losses. Compensation, if there is to be, need not even come out of the central exchequer. The current cess in GST can be replaced by a levy, which, in turn, can be used to compensate for losses by the states. We are hopeful that the Central government will work with the states in the spirit of cooperative federalism.

(The writer is the minister of revenue in the Karnataka government)

SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT

In a hotter world, some people age faster

Exposure to heat waves over two years could add up to 12 extra days of age-related health damage, writes Sachi Kitajima Mulkey

Living through extreme heatwaves can accelerate the rate of ageing, according to research published on Monday.

Scientists analysed 15 years' worth of health data from nearly 25,000 adults in Taiwan and found that two years of exposure to heat waves could speed up a person's so-called biological ageing by eight to 12 extra days.

It may not sound like a lot, but this number accumulates over time, said Cui Guo, an assistant professor at the University of Hong Kong, who led the study published Monday in the journal Nature Climate Change.

"This small number actually matters," she said. "This was a study of a two-year exposure, but we know heat waves have actually been occurring for decades."

The research comes as human-induced climate change is intensifying and prolonging heat waves. The West Coast of the United States is experiencing sweltering temperatures, while Iran is suffering from searing heat. Record-breaking temperatures punished Europe, Japan and Korea this month. France recently experienced its second heat wave of the summer, sparking a national debate over air conditioning.

In 2024, the hottest year on record, climate change was responsible for 41 extra days of extreme heat worldwide, according to an analysis by World Weather Attribution.

Particular groups are more vulnerable to accelerated ageing due to heat, the researchers found. If you're an older person who has lived through many heat waves, you may age faster than a younger person who has had the same exposure, Guo said. Other factors, such as living without air conditioning or working outdoors, can also significantly worsen your ageing rate.

Guo cautions this isn't the same as losing literal days off your life; it reflects a measurable shift in biological ageing markers, not the calendar.

The study defined heat waves as both a period of at least two consecutive days of abnormally high temperatures and any time when officials issued heat warnings. It also took into account a person's total heat exposure.

The researchers quantified the heat's effects by comparing people's biological age to their chronological age. Biological age is a measure of how healthy a person's lungs, liver and cells are compared with a perfectly healthy person, Guo said.

The study used 12 of these health measurements, known as biomarkers, to calculate how heat affected the rate of ageing for the study's participants. The results accounted for individual factors that can affect ageing markers, such as exercise, smoking and preexisting disease.

"Most countries are facing an ageing population," Guo said. Since biological ageing is closely linked to death and many diseases, speeding it up can be an indicator of serious health problems.

The population of Taiwan, along with those of Italy, Spain, and Hong Kong, ranks as one of the oldest in the world. In the United States, approximately one-quarter of the population is expected to be 65 or older by 2050.

The coping mechanism

The research builds on other studies that have found similar detrimental health effects of heat exposure. A recent analysis of 3,600 older Americans found that living in 90 degrees Fahrenheit for at least 140 days a year could cause up to 14 months of additional ageing.

Unlike the study in Taiwan, the research in the United States did not account for certain individual factors that may affect health, such as smoking. Kristie Ebi, a professor at the University of Washington who was not involved in either study, said that such factors make a large health impact, and accounting for them is key to correctly analysing the effects of heat on a population.

Other long-term changes can make a difference, too, Ebi said. Over a period as long as 15 years, a population may slowly acclimate to hotter temperatures, including finding new ways to cope with heat. The authors of the Taiwan study suggested that a moderate increase in the number of households with air conditioners was correlated with a diminished effect of heat on ageing over time.

"The results may have implications for public health interventions," said Ebi, noting that there are ways that governments can intervene to protect people in a warming world.

For example, residents of Oregon can use Medicaid funding to purchase an air conditioner if they have health conditions that worsen in hot weather, she said. However, air conditioners should not be considered an ideal solution because the energy they consume can actually make the outside air hotter and contribute to climate change, Ebi said.

Extreme heat can also present other, less direct risks to health. High temperatures have been found to worsen air quality, and set the stage for other disasters, such as wildfires, drought and storms.

"People just have low awareness that heat kills or that, in this case, has adverse health consequences," Ebi said. "That's just been a persistent challenge."

The New York Times

DID YOU KNOW?

Turning air into water

Researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have now demonstrated a novel approach: drawing water directly from the air. While the atmosphere is not considered a water source, it actually holds enormous quantities of vapour. If captured and condensed efficiently, this vapour could supply clean drinking water even in regions without rivers or groundwater.

The MIT team, led by Prof. Xuanhe Zhao, has developed an atmospheric water harvester that passively collects vapour across a wide range of humidity levels — even in desert conditions.

The device resembles a black, vertical panel, roughly the size of a window, filled with a special hydrogel. This material is engineered to swell as it absorbs vapour from the air, then contract again when the vapour is released. The collected vapour condenses on a cooled glass layer covering the panel and is funnelled out as drinkable water.

Field tests in Death Valley, California — one of the driest places in North America — showed that the system could still produce about 160 millilitres of water per day without requiring electricity, solar panels, or batteries.

Previous water-harvesting designs have often relied on embedding salts, such as lithium chloride, into hydrogels to boost water uptake. However, salts tended to leach into the harvested water, making it unsafe.

MIT's breakthrough lies in adding glycerol, a stabiliser that keeps lithium salts from escaping into the water. Tests showed leakage levels below 0.06 ppm, well under the safety limit for groundwater set by the U.S. Geological Survey. This makes the harvested water safe for drinking without additional purification.

Although one panel produces a modest amount of water, the technology is designed for scalability. Arrays of vertical panels could be installed together, with researchers estimating that around eight panels, each measuring 3×6 feet, could meet the drinking-water needs of an average household.

Because the panels are compact and do not require an external power source, they can be deployed in resource-limited settings, such as schools, homes, and even remote desert communities. Water yields would naturally increase in humid climates, making the system adaptable to many environments.

As Zhao explains, the team views this as a proof of feasibility at scale: "We have built a meter-scale device that we hope to deploy in regions where even a solar cell is not very accessible. Now people can build it larger, or arrange multiple panels, to supply safe drinking water and achieve real impact."

The study, published in Nature Water (2025), positions hydrogel-based water harvesting as a promising alternative to existing methods such as solar stills, fog nets, and metal-organic frameworks (MOFs). Unlike MOFs, which have limited water-carrying capacity, MIT's hydrogel design both absorbs vapour efficiently and avoids contamination issues. This low-maintenance, passive system could help communities facing water scarcity.

- Surendra Pai

GST reforms : Oppn states demand compensation for revenue loss

Suggest additional cess on sin & luxury goods over the proposed 40% GST rate

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Ahead of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council meeting on September 3 and 4, Opposition parties ruled states have proposed a cess to be levied on sin and luxury goods over and above the proposed 40% GST rate, to prevent revenue loss to the states.

Eight non-NDA ruled states met here on Friday to discuss proposed reforms in the GST, have expressed apprehension that the Centre's proposal for GST rate rejig could result in a revenue loss of about Rs 1.5 crore to Rs 2 lakh crore and demanded compensation for the losses incurred by them.

Finance ministers from eight states — Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and West Bengal — decided to present their proposal to the GST Council at the next meeting.

These states argued for an 'additional levy' that could be imposed on sin and luxury goods, over and above the 40% rate proposed by the Centre.

"The proceeds of this levy should be fully distributed among the States as a necessary measure to safeguard States' revenues, discourage the use of sin goods, and promote public health," they said.

Sin goods include tobacco, cigarettes, and ghuka, while luxury items are typically high-value cars and other high-end services such as business class and first class flight tickets.

After a meeting, Karnataka Finance Minister Krishna Byre Gowda told reporters that said each state is expected to lose 15-20% from its current GST revenue. "The 20% GST revenue loss will seriously destabilise the fiscal structure of state governments across the country," Byre Gowda said, adding that states should be compensated for 5 years till the revenues stabilise.

The Centre has proposed that the GST be made a 2-tier tax structure of 5 and 18%, as against the current 4-slab structure of 5, 12, 18 and 28 %, plus a compensation Cess.

As per the Centre's proposal, goods and services will be classified as merit and standard and taxed at 5 and 18%. A 40% slab has been proposed for select few items such as sin goods and ultra-luxury items.

The eight states also demanded that the base year for calculating revenue protection be fixed as 2024-25. "Should there be a deficit even after the imposition of the proposed additional levy, the Union government should raise loans secured against the future receipts of the additional levy."

SC agrees to hear Bihar SIR pleas on September 8

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to hear on September 8 a plea by the RJD and others for an extension for filing claims and objections for voter registration in Bihar in the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, on behalf of the petitioners, mentioned the matter before a bench of Justices Surya Kant, Joymalya Bagchi and Vipul M Shah seeking a one-week extension of the September 1 deadline.

The counsel submitted that the RJD and a few other parties filed applications seeking the extension of the September 1 deadline to file claims and objections with regard to the draft voters' list.

The court was informed that the parties wanted the extension because over 1.75 lakh claims were made before and after the apex court's August 22 court order that persons excluded from the draft electoral rolls in Bihar could submit their applications for inclusion online.

In its application, the RJD, however, sought an extension till September 15 to accept the claims of deleted voters.

After hearing the counsel, the court ordered, "List all the applications along with the main matter on September 8."

BJP workers storm Bihar Cong HQ over 'abuses' against PM

PATNA, PTI

The issue of abuse hurled at Prime Minister Narendra Modi during Rahul Gandhi's 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' in Bihar spilled out on the streets on Friday when BJP workers stormed the state Congress headquarters, prompting the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha to declare 'truth always triumphs'.

While the person who had allegedly screamed expletives into the mic at Darbhanga two days ago was arrested, BJP workers in the state capital staged a march to the Sadaqat Ashram, the BPCC headquarters, and clashed with their counterparts in the opposition party.

"We will not tolerate the insult to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Rahul Gandhi, his party and alliance partners will have to apologise," said minister Nitin Nabin who had led the procession from the BJP office.

Gandhi, who was in Gopalganj, about 120 km away, and is likely to be in Patna on Monday when the Yatra will conclude, came out with an X post in Hindi, indirectly referring to the clash.

"Violence and falsehood stand no chance before truth and non-violence. Indulge in assault and vandalism to your heart's content. We will continue our fight to protect truth and the Constitution. Truth always triumphs! (Satyamev Jayate)", wrote Gandhi.

Congress general secretary (organisation) K C Venugopal wrote on X, "Baffled by the soaring popularity of the Voter Adhikar Yatra, the BJP has once again unleashed its hooligans to intimidate and scare us."

"Injuries have been sustained by people from both sides. Further action may be taken after investigation," Patna Central SP said.

Sambhal 'demography change' claim triggers political slugfest in UP

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

The alleged change in the demography of communally sensitive Sambhal town in Uttar Pradesh triggered a political slugfest in the state with the saffron outfits and the BJP attributing it to the 'appeasement politics', while the Samajwadi Party termed it a 'distraction'.

A judicial Commission, formed to investigate the violence in Sambhal during a court-mandated survey of a mosque in which four people died, has, in its report, claimed that the Hindu population in Sambhal declined from 45% in 1947 to just 15%, while the Muslim population increased from 55% to 85% during the same period.

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad on Friday staged a demonstration here and burnt an effigy of the SP MP from Sambhal, Zia-ur-Rehman Burq, blaming him for engineering the violence in the town.

The BJP also jumped into the fray and said that the 'appeasement politics' pursued by the successive governments in the past was responsible for the 'demographic change' in Sambhal.

"Sambhal has a history of communal riots... the Hindus were forced to leave the place as they did not feel safe there," said a state BJP leader here.

The SP was quick to reject the charges and said that the BJP government wanted to distract the people from its failure, and therefore was raising such issues.

Senior Muslim cleric Maulana Shabuddin Rizvi also rejected the report, saying that Hindus might have left Sambhal in search of better prospects. "The Hindus may have shifted elsewhere to provide better education to their children and in search of employment," he said.

The Panel submitted its report to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday. Although the content of the 450-page report was not made public, according to the sources, it contained details of the history of communal riots in the town, the change in its demography after independence and 'evidence' of the existence of a Hindu temple in the foundation of the mosque.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

COULD I GIVE MY MOM A COUPLE OF THOSE FLOWERS, MRS. B.?
HOW THOUGHTFUL, ELMO! WHAT'S THE OCCASION?
I DID SOMETHING KIND OF DUMB, AND MR. B. SAID BEFORE I TELL HER ABOUT IT, I SHOULD BUTTER HER UP WITH FLOWERS
I SEE!
HI, HONEY, I GOT YOU SOME FLOWERS!
UH-OH!

Hagar The Horrible

HEY, SVEN! I GOT YOUR WEDDING INVITATION!
YOU CAN RIP IT UP!
OLGA AND I FOUGHT OVER THE WEDDING PLANS!
SHE WANTED SOMEONE ELSE TO BE THE GROOM!

Beetle Bailey

Peanuts

EVERY NOW AND THEN I THINK ABOUT MY UNCLE IN MISSOURI
HE WAS A BIG GROCERY STORE, AND HE HAD HIGH HOPES
HE DIDN'T LAST LONG, THOUGH...
BAD WOOD

Marvin

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

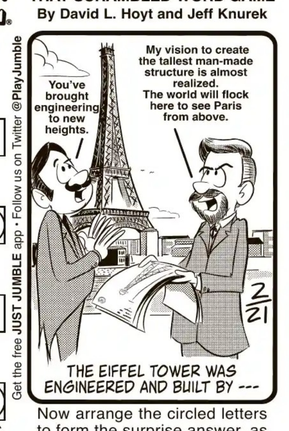
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VLEAH

SAHHR

LPCIES

NINGEE


You've brought engineering to new heights.
My vision to create the tallest man-made structure is almost realized. The world will flock here to see Paris from above.
2/21
THE EIFFEL TOWER WAS ENGINEERED AND BUILT BY ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

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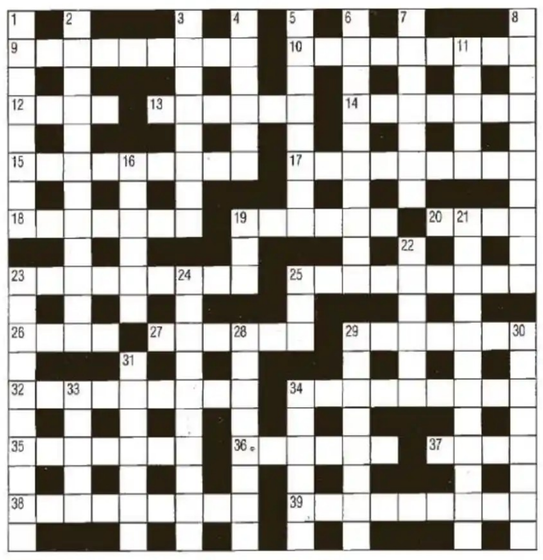
Yesterday's Jumbles: MUDDY PRINT SWITCH LOUNGE
Answer: After learning that a landfill was being built nearby, they were — DOWN IN THE DUMPS

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 4003



ACROSS
9 Sincere (9)
10 Household pest (9)
12 Legend (4)
13 Caress (6)
14 Prime Minister (7)
15 Same (9)
17 Size (9)
18 Unaffected (7)
19 Trial (6)
20 Castle (4)
23 Obstructed (9)
25 Guardian (9)
26 Ceremony (4)
27 Disease (6)
29 Purplish red (7)
32 Eternal (9)
34 Certainly (9)
35 Keep under control (7)
36 Salad plant (6)
37 Metal (4)
38 Added sugar (9)
39 Grounds for complaint (9)

DOWN
1 Hero (8)
2 Abuse (12)
3 Upright (8)
4 Leisurely walk (6)
5 Yelled (8)
6 Those taking the blame (10)
7 Poison (7)
8 1920s dance (10)
11 Farewell (5)
16 Aim (6)
19 Elderly (3)
21 Outdoor sport (12)
22 Neglect (6)
23 Reword (10)
24 Crossing (10)
25 Modest (3)
28 Manner (8)
29 Large hill (8)
30 Agreed (8)
31 Journal (7)
33 Currency unit (5)
34 Injury (6)

CRYPTIC

ACROSS
9 Kept quiet and booked (9)
10 Favouring the proposal to have an advertising campaign (9)
12 For the trip in, about one day (4)
13 Make no move to anaesthetise (6)
14 Shudder at having to compete with the awful child in it (7)
15 The delight you feel when you see your bus coming? (9)
17 Don't forget to pick it up again (9)
18 Reckoned it means "with a pattern" (7)
19 Rule on, when carrying the raid out (6)
20 Shot back, mad (4)
23 Sea fruit? (4,5)
25 A pebble on the beach? (9)
26 Make the acquaintance of and be full of, on return (4)
27 Recommend that you should tell (6)
29 A temp in some hole-in-the-wall job? (4-3)
32 Thinks up possible reasons for the zero increments? (9)
34 Nonsense! Go in to hector the demonstrator (9)
35 Going through the list, I really enjoy myself (7)
36 One son, Nigel: he's most peculiar (6)
37 Hadn't paid for the round we had (4)
38 About the meal out, say it's an impasse (9)
39 To do with the origins of the money (9)

DOWN
1 Running through it, if first given a drink (8)
2 Means of communicating with the next world? (4,8)
3 Charge too much (8)
4 Coming a day before the opening (6)
5 Editor on a paper that folded, it seemed (8)
6 A certainty that the defendant will be found guilty? (10)
7 It doesn't have a bull ring! (7)
8 Like a first-class, though useless, gong (10)
11 The leg that is held up in the picture (5)
16 Are crying out for a sun salve (6)
19 Person you first have to reckon with (3)
21 Believed on both occasions one hadn't acted rashly (7,5)
22 Has been running round again on the beach (6)
23 Get as far as "The others land" (4,2,4)
24 He's left his car behind.There's nothing unusual in that (10)
25 Get me to meet with, face to face (3)
28 Was emphatic that the side isn't to be beaten (8)
29 Looking very clean, if you're not quite so hawk-eyed (8)
30 Is taking part in the procession - absolute heaven! (8)
31 Said in the letter the bird, a tit, had flown in (7)
33 I land up covering for her (5)
34 Where there's food, an insect will nose about (6)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12235

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 1, Glass 6, Match 9, WI-shful 10, Asp-ic 11, S-pasm 12, D-arts 13, Wipe out 15, Pod 17, Hell 18, Creamy 19, Sells(cells) 20,T.-Hanks 22, Puc-E 24, Eat 25, Du-lla-R-d 26, Sprat 27, Strap 28, Faith 29, Lentils 30, Order 31, Y-E-arn.
DOWN: 2, Lass-i-e 3, Swive-l 4, Sic 5, Wheat 6, Must-ers 7, Alps 8, Cust-OM 12, D-UK-es 13, White 14, Pleat 15, Padua 16, Dy-fed 18, CL-out 19, Skipper 21, Ha-TT-er 22, Please 23, Crater 25, Dante 26, Sale 28, Fly.

EASY
ACROSS: 1, Shame 6, Count 9, Angular 10, Scald 11, Range 12, Total 13, Discern 15, Ate 17, Acne 18, Merged 19, Carol 20, Eluded 22, Else 24, Dot 25, Contend 26, Altar 27, Panda 28, Visor 29, Archaic 30,Teems 31, Aster.
DOWN: 2, Hectic 3, Malice 4, End 5, Huron 6, Caramel 7, Oral 8, Negate 12,Tread 13, Dated 14, Snout 15, Agile 16, Edged 18, Motor 19, Cellars 21, Locate 22, Ethics 23, Snooze 25, Cache 26, Adam 28, Via.

◆SU-DO-KU-6688◆

			9		7			8
				5			7	2
		6		8			1	
			5			4		3
5	6						8	7
9		8			1			
	2			1		9		
1	9			3				
8			6		2			

medium

SOLUTION TO 6687

8	5	3	4	2	7	6	9	1
4	9	1	3	6	5	7	8	2
2	7	6	1	9	8	4	3	5
1	3	8	5	4	6	2	7	9
5	6	2	7	8	9	3	1	4
7	4	9	2	3	1	8	5	6
9	2	4	8	1	3	5	6	7
6	8	5	9	7	2	1	4	3
3	1	7	6	5	4	9	2	8

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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I1 I1 S1 R1 A1 P3 N1 — Double Word Score — RACK 1
I1 A1 S1 N1 T1 I1 T1 — RACK 2
A1 E1 U1 D2 D2 T1 N1 — Triple Word Score — RACK 3
N1 N1 K5 E1 O1 D2 H4 — 4th Letter Triple — RACK 4

PAR SCORE 145-155
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

S1 P3 O1 O1 N1 E1 D2
B3 U1 N1 N1 Y4
I1 N1 T1 O1 N1 E1 D2
T1 H4 E1 M3 E1 D2
M3 O1 V4 A1 B3 L1 E1

RACK 1 = 80
RACK 2 = 18
RACK 3 = 58
RACK 4 = 36
RACK 5 = 68
JUDD'S TOTAL 260

PAR SCORE 170-180

HITORI-3142

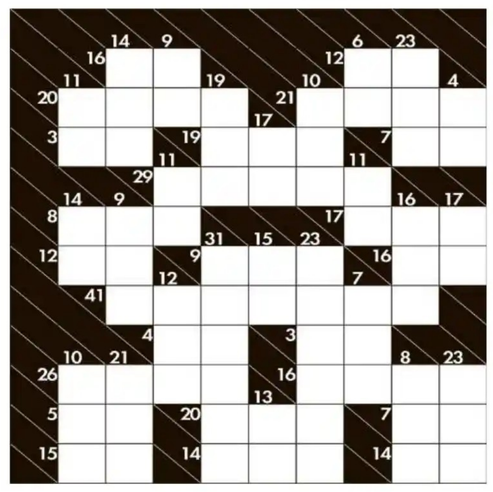
6	2	6	1	5	8	1	1
8	4	3	2	7	6	5	1
4	7	5	6	1	8	8	3
8	5	1	8	4	1	7	8
3	1	4	4	6	5	8	7
5	1	7	1	3	4	8	4
7	8	5	6	1	2	6	6
1	3	1	7	2	4	6	6

SOLUTION TO 3141

■	8	4	6	■	7	5	■
4	2	■	7	5	■	1	3
8	■	7	1	3	5	■	6
3	1	■	4	6	■	7	8
7	4	3	5	1	8	6	■
5	■	6	■	2	1	8	4
■	6	5	8	■	3	■	1
6	7	8	■	4	2	3	■

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3142



SOLUTION TO 3141

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3661

■	2						7	5
	■			1			■	
		■				■		9
	3	7	■		6		4	
	9			2			1	6
1			■		■	7		
	8	■				■		
5	■			3		6	■	
4				5				■

SOLUTION TO 3660

3	5	4	7	6	9	8	1	2
2	8	6	1	5	3	7	4	9
7	9	1	2	4	8	6	3	5
1	2	3	4	8	5	9	6	7
5	4	8	9	7	6	3	2	1
9	6	7	3	1	2	4	5	8
4	7	9	6	2	1	5	8	3
6	1	5	8	3	7	2	9	4
8	3	2	5	9	4	1	7	6

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

Committed to remove infiltrators from country: Shah

Praises Assam's ex-CM Borbora for voter list cleanup

SUMIR KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI, DHNS

Endorsing the Assam government's eviction drive targeting the Bengali-speaking Muslims, Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday stated that the BJP is committed to ensuring that no "infiltrators" could stay anywhere in the country.

"I appreciate the Assam government's drive to clear land from the infiltrators... Let me assure you today that we are committed to ensure that no infiltrators can stay in the country," Shah said while speaking at a function in Guwahati to celebrate the birth centenary of former Assam chief minister Golap Borbora.

Referring to the first revision of the electoral rolls in Assam by the Borbora government in 1978, Shah said, "Electoral rolls are the heart of democracy and our election process. Today, I want to ask our youth, should any foreigner be allowed to remain in our electoral rolls?"

Stating that the electoral roll revision is not new in the country and the Election Commission had carried out electoral rolls revision several times in the past, Shah said, "Now, when the EC is carrying out a special electoral rolls revision in Bihar, the Congress party is trying to stop the process. They are trying to shield the infiltrators in order to protect their vote bank and to be in power."

Union Home Minister Amit Shah plays 'Bhor Taal' during the 'NDA Panchayat Pratinidhi Sammelan' in Guwahati. PTI

Borbora was the first non-Congress CM of Assam, and it was during his government, a special revision of electoral rolls in the Mangaldoi constituency had detected names of 36,780 "foreigners".

It led to widespread protest by All Assam Students' Union (AASU), culminating in the six-year-long anti-foreigners movement or the Assam Agitation. Hundreds died during the movement till the Rajiv Gandhi government signed the Assam Accord on August 15, 1985.

After years of agitation by AASU and others, the NRC 1951 was updated between 2013 and 2018. The BJP-led government, which came to power for the first time in Assam in 2016, however, refused to accept the updated draft NRC, saying many "foreigners" fraudulently made it to the list.

Home Minister Shah further said the special mission announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the Independence Day function on August 15, to study "demographic changes," would also detect the "infiltrators."

Earlier in the day, Shah, while addressing a rally of NDA representatives in panchayats across the state, complimented the CM Himanta Biswa Sarma-led government's drive to clear forests and government land from "infiltrators."

Repeated support to the eviction drive, according to Assam BJP leaders, made it clear that the BJP's campaign for the 2026 Assembly polls would revolve around the "infiltrators" and the strong "anti-foreigners" sentiments among the indigenous Assamese.

SC asks Centre to file response to Swamy's 'Ram Setu' plea

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Friday asked the Centre to file a response on a plea by former Rajya Sabha MP Subramanian Swamy seeking a direction to the government to "expeditiously" decide his representation to declare 'Ram Setu' as a national monument.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta agreed to examine Swamy's plea and issued notice to the Centre.

'Ram Setu', also known as Adam's Bridge, is a chain of limestone shoals between Pamban Island, off the southeastern coast of Tamil Nadu, and Mannar Island, off the northwestern coast of Sri Lanka. The apex court has scheduled the matter for further hearing after four weeks.

The plea has referred to the 2023 order, passed by the apex court in the matter.

On Swamy's January 2023 plea, the Centre had told the top court that it was looking into the issue of declaring 'Ram Setu' as a national heritage monument.

"Now it fulfils the criteria of an Ancient Monument; that under Section 3/4 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958, the government is duty-bound to declare all the ancient monuments as of national importance and national monuments," a fresh plea by Swamy said. It stated the Centre is duty-bound also to protect Ram Setu.

Maha: Over 5,000 evacuated as floods grip Nanded district

MUMBAI, DHNS: More than 5,000 people were evacuated and shifted to safer locations as the Nanded district experienced large-scale inundation and flooding with the Marathwada region pounded by very heavy rains on Friday.

A unit of the Indian Army has been rushed from Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar to assist the Nanded revenue and police machinery in mitigating the emergency situation.

Several tehsils, including Naigaon, Biloli, Mukhed, Deglur, Loha, Kandhar, and Nanded, were severely affected, with floodwaters entering houses in low-lying areas.

"More than 5000 people from here have been evacuated to safe places by multiple teams of SDRF, CRPF, and local police. The situation is under control," CM Devendra Fadnavis said.

5 dead, 11 missing as Uttarakhand hit by cloudbursts again

Heavy rains damage roads, trigger landslides

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

Five people were killed and many injured while 11 others went missing in a spate of cloudbursts that hit some villages in Rudraprayag, Chamoli, Bageshwar and Tehri districts of Uttarakhand on late Thursday night.

According to the reports, a woman died after she was buried under the debris at Tendwal village in Rudraprayag district after it was hit by a cloudburst.

Another cloudburst hit Dewal in Chamoli district, in which two people were killed. Around 20 livestock were buried under the debris, the reports said.

SDRF personnel during a rescue operation at a cloudburst-hit village, in Rudraprayag, on Friday. PTI

The Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority (USDMA) said heavy rain overnight damaged nearly half a dozen houses in Pausari gram panchayat in Bageshwar district, leaving two dead, one wounded, and three missing. Two bodies were recovered, while one person was rescued in an injured condition.

A cloudburst also hit Gewali village in Tehri district late on Thursday night. No casualty was reported.

Reports said that large parts of Uttarakhand had been experiencing heavy rains since last night, causing damage to the roads and triggering landslides at many places.

Reports said that several houses were buried under the debris in the affected areas, and teams had been rushed to carry out relief and rescue operations. Schools have been closed in the affected regions. Several roads were blocked, affecting the movement of vehicles. Tourists were stranded at many places, and efforts were on to transport them to safety.

Authorities have sounded an alert in Rudraprayag town after a rise in the water level of the Alaknanda River. Rising water posed a serious threat to the low-lying areas, and the residents have been advised to shift to safer places.

There were several incidents of cloudbursts in parts of Uttarakhand in the past few days. Seven people were killed in a flash flood triggered by a cloudburst at Dharali in Uttarkashi district recently.

Guj Bitcoin scam: Ex- BJP MLA among 14 sentenced to life

SATISH JHA
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

Stating that it was "the need of the hour that widespread corruption amongst public servants and private persons be curbed with a strong hand," a special designated court on Friday convicted 14 people, including a former BJP MLA and an ex-superintendent of police, and sentenced them to life imprisonment in the 2018 kidnapping and Bitcoin extortion case.

Bharat Bhaskarbhai Jadav, Special Judge (Anti-Corruption Bureau), convicted former BJP MLA Nalin Kotadiya (56) and Amreli former SP Jagdish Patel (46), the then police inspector, local crime branch, Amreli; nine police constables; and others.

Kotadiya and others were found guilty of kidnapping Surat-based businessman Shailesh Bhatt, who was involved in a multi-crore Bitcoin fraud. The investigation revealed that the suspects had extorted Bitcoin worth Rs 12 crore from Bhatt.

The investigation by CID (crime) found that Bhatt had invested huge funds in Bitcoins in a Surat-based company, which "abruptly wound up its business." Bhatt was alleged to have kidnapped several persons connected with the firm and recovered his Bitcoins.

The investigation claimed Bhatt extorted 2,256 Bitcoins worth over Rs 145 crore from Surat-based Dhaval Mawani by posing as an income tax officer.

The accused persons allegedly conspired to extort money from Bhatt and kidnapped him.

"...it is the need of the hour that widespread corruption be required to be curbed with a strong hand, and certainly the verdict of the court has greater magnitude than other means. Corruption affects not only the moral fiber of society but also destroys the economic stability and progress of the country," the judgement noted while holding them guilty.

Cadets injured in military training to get health scheme benefits

NEW DELHI, DHNS: In what may bring some relief to the families of officer cadets who had to drop out of military academies due to medical conditions developed during training, the Union Defence Ministry on Friday announced extending the Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) to such cadets.

Many cadets who join the National Defence Academy, Officers Training Academy, and the Indian Military Academy for training before commissioning suffer lifelong disabilities. They are currently not eligible for the ECHS due to the absence of ex-serviceman (ESM) status.

Since 1985, approximately 500 such cadets have survived on a monthly ex gratia allowance, which is often less than their medical bills.

The ministry decided ECHS would apply to cadets medically boarded out before completion of training. However, their kin would not get its benefits.

The one-time subscription fee of Rs 1.2 lakh, applicable to ESMs, would not be charged from officer cadets joining the ECHS scheme, said the ministry.

An official communication has also been sent to the three Service chiefs and the Chief of the Defence Staff.

SC gets full strength with two new judges

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court functioned with its full complement of 34 judges on Friday, as two new judges, Justices Alok Aradhe and Vipul Manubhai Pancholi, were administered the oath of office.

Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai read the oath to the judges in a swearing-in ceremony attended by all the Supreme Court judges and advocates on its premises.

The development comes after the Centre cleared the Supreme Court Collegium's recommendation on Wednesday for the elevation of Justice Aradhe, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court, and Justice Pancholi, Chief Justice of the Patna High Court, as judges of the apex court.

On Monday, the five-judge Collegium led by CJI made the resolution on the two appointments by 4:1.

The Centre fast-tracked its decision and notified the elevation of the judges within two days.

Justice Pancholi is in line to be the Chief Justice of India from October 3, 2031, upon the retirement of Justice Joymalya Bagchi, and will continue in the post till May 27, 2033.

SC to examine implementation of POSH Act for women lawyers

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Friday issued notice to the Centre on a plea for the implementation of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) (POSH) Act, 2013 for women lawyers enrolled with State Bar Councils or Bar Association.

A bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and R Mahadevan also sought a response from the Bar Council of India.

The court, however, declined to consider a plea by petitioner-advocate Seema Joshi, challenging the validity of the Bombay High Court's judgment of July 7, 2025, which limited the implementation of the POSH Act to employees of Bar Councils and Bar Associations.

During the hearing, the bench asked how could a petition under Article 32 (right to move court for protection of fundamental rights) of the Constitution be filed against a high court judgment.

"Either you file a PIL under Article 32 of the Constitution or you challenge the Bombay High Court order as an SLP. You cannot file a writ petition challenging the High Court order," the bench told the petitioner's counsel, who agreed not to press the prayer.

The plea sought directions to Bar Councils and Bar Associations to constitute Internal Committees to hear the complaints of women advocates.

It urged the SC to ensure a purposive application of POSH to women advocates.

The plea referred to Section 2(a) of the Act, which defined an "aggrieved woman" as one "whether employed or not", and Section 3, which prohibited sexual harassment against "any woman" at the workplace.

The petition also relied on Section 2(o)(i) to contend that courts, Bar Council offices and Bar Associations are "institutions" or "establishments" and fall under the ambit of "workplace" within the POSH Act.

Top court declines to hear plea on ban of 25 books in J&K

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Friday declined to consider a PIL challenging a decision by the Jammu and Kashmir government banning 25 books for allegedly propagating false narratives, promoting secessionism and glorifying terrorism.

A notification by Principal Secretary (Home) Chandraker Bharti on August 5, 2025 declared the books forfeited to the government, invoking Sections 152, 196 and 197 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

Dealing with a PIL filed by advocate Shakir Shabir, the court asked the petitioner to approach the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court.

"The high court is a constitutional court, let it decide. Let us have the benefit of the HC's opinion. We have seen the list of books, and as some local people are talking about issues, the High Court would be in a better position to decide," the court said.

Maratha quota activist begins hunger strike

MRITYUNJAY BOSE
MUMBAI, DHNS

In what was a defining moment vis-à-vis the four-decades-old demand of Maratha reservation, Manoj Jarange-Patil, who in the past couple of years has emerged as the face of the agitation, launched his fast-unto-death at the historic Azad Maidan in Mumbai on Friday and declared that he would not return till the demand is met.

Supporters of activist Manoj Jarange-Patil gather for Maratha quota protest, at Azad Maidan, in Mumbai, on Friday. PTI

Jarange-Patil launched the fast-unto-death at 10 am amid roaring support from thousands of his supporters donning saffron caps and scarves, even as "ek Maratha, lakh Maratha, "Manoj Dada... aage bado, hum tumhare saath hai" rend the air. Intermittent rains did not dampen the spirits of protestors at the Azad Maidan and several others who took shelter at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus.

The protests immediately led to the blame game between the ruling MahaYuti and opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi, who accused each other of ignoring the demands of Marathas and playing with their sentiments.

The demand of Jarange-Patil is the implementation of reservation for the Marathas as Kunbis, a sub-caste covered under OBC, which the latter are objecting to. and have threatened to launch parallel agitation in Nagpur from Saturday.

"I am ready to face bullets... I am ready to go to jail... come what may... I am not going to back out," Jarange-Patil said, addressing a mammoth crowd as he launched the agitation and expressed his willingness to talk. However, since no formal delegation of the government came to him, this agitated him, and in the evening, he said, "The government should stop playing games."

Meanwhile, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and his two deputies, Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar, asserted that the government was sympathetic to the cause of Marathas. "We are confident that we will resolve the issue," said Fadnavis.

PM nominates 2 new members to NDMA

NEW DELHI, PTI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday nominated two people as new members of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and renominated three existing members for three years.

While current members Rajendra Singh, Krishna Swaroop Vatsa and Lt Gen Syed Ata Hasnain (Retd) were renominated as members of the NDMA, scientist Dinesh Kumar Aswal and disaster recovery specialist Rita Missal were nominated as new members of the NDMA.

The prime minister is the chairperson of the NDMA.

Setting up of NDMA and the creation of an enabling environment for institutional mechanisms at the state and district levels is mandated by the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

FAME GAME

Of Bihar's politics, sports, & everything in between

HITA PRAKASH
RAJGIR, DHNS

The state of Bihar is in the midst of an election frenzy: Candidates are flashing smiles and waving hands while frowning at their competitors; party workers are doing the legwork as they campaign with folded hands (or flexing muscles) to "convince" the common man to vote for their "sahebs" or "madamjis". The battle to reign supreme is well and truly underway.

In the middle of all this chaotic tug of war, the men's hockey Asia Cup is being held in Rajgir, situated 103 km southeast of state capital Patna.

"If you keep going straight (for 300 km), this road will reach Ranchi, M S Dhoni's hometown," said a taxi driver on the Ghoghardiha-Durgasthan Road between Bhaktiarpur and Harnaut en route to Rajgir from the Patna airport.

"We have one of our own: Ishan Kishan. Do you know him? But he isn't as good as Dhoni," he let out a sigh as we passed a hoarding advertising the Asia Cup with mascot "Chand" — a tiger

A hoarding advertising the Asia Cup with a mugshot of CM Nitish Kumar. DH PHOTO

holding a hockey stick — with a mugshot of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on the top left.

"You came here to watch hockey? Oh, hockey pata nahi (I don't know). This is the Nalanda district, which is where Nitishji is from. That's why you see so many of his posters. They are building a big cricket stadium. Then IPL will happen here, too," pointed out the driver with "Ray" as his surname.

Sport used as soft power is the new flex for politicians, and Nitish wasn't going to miss joining the trend. After all, it is a way of showcasing development despite persistent socio-economic issues.

"When my daughter was born, she was in the incubator for three months. Everyone told me 'Beti hai, kaikeliya rupiah karcha karrahe ho? Chhod do.' (It's a girl. Why are you spending money on her?)' Maine bola nahi, beti mere liye Laxmi hai (I said my daughter is my Laxmi — Goddess of prosperity). She is in Standard 10 now. She speaks good English," said Ray.

Bihar fares among the worst Indian states in female foeticide, and hit a new low of 882 females per 1,000 males at birth last December.

The women's Asian Champions Trophy was the first international tournament held at the new hockey turf.

The intent behind hosting big events, according to stakeholders, is to inspire the next generation of sportspersons — especially the women.

However, the result of the "larger good" will become apparent at least 15 years from now. Until then, it is the sport of politics making the biggest headlines in Bihar.

Schools, enrolments drop but teacher numbers rise: Education ministry

AMRITA MADHUKALYA
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Continuing a trend, data from the education ministry showed that compared to 2023-24, there had been a dip of over 11 lakh in enrolment in schools across all levels.

The ministry's Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) data, released Thursday, showed that enrolment from pre-primary to higher-secondary levels across both government and private schools fell from 24.8 crore in 2023-24 to 24.69 crore in 2024-25.

Ministry officials attributed the drop to a fall in fertility rates, and said the numbers were below par since they were still based on the 2011 Census data.

"We believe that when the Census exercise begins in March, this is set to improve," said an official.

School numbers

The total number of schools also fell in comparison to the previous year. While there was a total of 14,71,891 schools in 2023-24, that number increased to 14,71,473 in 2024-25.

Some of these were government schools that had seen mergers, said officials, including over 100 schools in Uttar Pradesh alone.

Overall, the number of government schools fell from 10.18 lakh in 2023-24 to 10.13 lakh in 2024-25.

On the other hand, the number of private schools increased from 3.31 lakh in 2023-24 to around 3.79 lakh in 2024-25.

The number of teachers, meanwhile, saw an increase — from 98.07 lakh in 2023-24 to 1.01 crore in 2024-25. As a result, the pupil-to-teacher ratio — the number of students per teacher — saw a marginal improvement.

At the primary level (Classes 1-5), it dropped from 21 in 2023-24 to 20 in 2024-25, while at the upper primary level (Classes 6-8), it went down from 18 in 2023-24 to 17 in 2024-25.

At the secondary level (Classes 9-10), it fell from 16 in 2023-24 to 15 in 2024-25. At the higher secondary level (Classes 11-12) it saw a drop from 24 in 2023-24 to 23 in 2024-25.

The number of girl students in the primary to higher secondary levels saw an increase of over 5% since last year — from 11.32 crore in 2023-24 to 11.93 crore now.

India has turned into oil money laundromat for Kremlin: Navarro

NEW YORK/WASHINGTON, PTI: A day after claiming that the Ukraine conflict was "Modi's war", White House trade adviser Peter Navarro has accused India of being an "oil money laundromat for the Kremlin".

Navarro, Trump administration's Senior Counsellor for Trade and Manufacturing, in a lengthy thread on X on Thursday, ranted about India's oil purchases from Russia and New Delhi's high tariffs. The 50% tariffs slapped on India by the Trump administration came into effect on Wednesday.

The trade adviser said the 50% tariff — 25% for unfair trade and 25% for national security — was a direct response.

"India's Big Oil lobby has turned the largest democracy in the world into a massive refining hub and oil money laundromat for the Kremlin," Navarro claimed.

He went on to say that Indian refiners buy cheap Russian oil, process it, and export fuels to Europe, Africa, and Asia. "India now exports over 1 million barrels a day in refined petroleum — more than half the volume of Russian crude it imports. The proceeds flow to India's politically connected energy titans — and directly into Putin's war chest," he claimed.

Gaza City declared combat zone as Israel begins planned offensive

Israel says bodies of 2 hostages recovered

GAZA CITY, AP/PTI

Smoke billows during an Israeli strike on the besieged Gaza Strip on Friday. AFP

Israel on Friday declared Gaza's largest city a dangerous combat zone and said it was in the "initial stages" of a planned offensive that has drawn international condemnation.

Israel's military said it suspended mid-day pauses to fighting, which had allowed food and aid supplies to enter from 10 am to 8 pm, while also reporting it had recovered the bodies of two hostages and vowed its military offensive would return more.

The shift comes weeks after Israel first announced plans to widen its offensive in Gaza City, where hundreds of thousands of displaced people are sheltering and enduring famine.

The resumption of around-the-clock fighting is the latest escalation after Israel reported strikes in some of the city's key neighbourhoods and called up tens of thousands of reservists.

"We will intensify our strikes until we bring back all the kidnapped hostages and dismantle Hamas," Israeli army spokesperson Avichay Adraee said.

Israel on Friday said its military had recovered the bodies of two hostages, including an Israeli man who was killed in the October 7, 2023, attack that sparked the war. The bodies of Ilan Weiss of Kibbutz Be'eri and another unnamed hostage were returned to Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said.

"The campaign to return the hostages continues. We will not rest or be silent until we return all of our hostages home — both the living and the dead," Netanyahu said. Of the 251 hostages taken by Hamas-led militants almost 22 months ago, roughly 50 remain in Gaza, including 20 that Israel believes to be alive.

Israel's Hostages and Missing Families Forum, which has organised large-scale protests demanding a ceasefire to return the hostages, mourned the losses and said Israeli leaders should prioritise a deal to return both the living and the dead.

"We call on the Israeli government to enter negotiations and stay at the table until every last hostage comes home. Time is running out for the hostages. Time is running out for the people of Israel who carry this burden," it said.

Israel introduced "tactical pauses" in Gaza City, Deir al-Balah and Muwasi last month as it faced global condemnation over the humanitarian conditions in the besieged strip.

US revokes visas of Palestinian officials ahead of UN General Assembly

WASHINGTON, AP/PTI: Secretary of State Marco Rubio has revoked the visas of a number of Palestinian Authority and Palestine Liberation Organisation officials ahead of next month's annual UN General Assembly, where the groups previously have been represented.

The State Department said in a statement Friday that Rubio also had ordered some new visa applications from Palestinian officials be denied.

The move is the latest in a series of steps the Trump administration has taken to target Palestinians with visa restrictions and comes as the Israeli military declared Gaza's largest city a combat zone. The State Department also suspended a programme that had allowed injured Palestinian children from Gaza to come to the US for medical treatment after a social media outcry by some conservatives.

The State Department didn't specify how many visas had been revoked or how many applications had been denied.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

Actress Julia Roberts attends the photocall of the movie "After the Hunt" at the 82nd International Venice Film Festival on Friday. AFP

Trump withdraws Kamala Harris' Secret Service protection

▶ US President Donald Trump has cancelled former vice president Kamala Harris's Secret Service protection, officials said on Friday, in the Republican's most high-profile move of its kind against his political rivals, AFP reports from Washington.

The Secret Service customarily protects ex-VPs for six months after they leave office, a period that ended on July 21 for Harris, the defeated Democratic presidential candidate last year. But then-president Joe Biden approved a year-long extension for Harris in a previously undisclosed order that Trump has now terminated, a senior White House official told AFP on condition of anonymity. Harris's office also confirmed the move. "The Vice President is grateful to the US Secret Service for their professionalism, dedication, and unwavering commitment to safety," Kirsten Harris, a senior advisor to Harris, told AFP. While Harris has kept a low profile since losing the election, the 60-year-old is scheduled to go on tour this fall to promote a book she has written on her failed presidential bid.

Putin to visit India in Dec: Kremlin

▶ Russian President Vladimir Putin will travel to India in December, Kremlin foreign policy aide Yuri Ushakov said on Friday, PTI reports from Moscow.

Ushakov said President Putin will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in China's Tianjin city to discuss the preparations for his visit to India. "Right after the SCO Plus meeting (on September 1), our president will meet Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Ushakov told journalists. "What is especially important is that preparations will be discussed for the upcoming visit of our president to India in December," he added.

22 dead as floods wreak havoc in Pak's Punjab

Lahore city inundated after almost 40 years

LAHORE, PTI

Commuters drive on a bridge as floodwaters flow through the Ravi river following a rise in water levels in Shahdara area of Lahore on Friday. AFP

At least 22 people died in the last 24 hours as several residential areas of Lahore remained submerged due to floodwaters entering the city, the first time in almost 40 years, in Pakistan's Punjab province, authorities said on Friday.

Pakistan's most populous province, Punjab, has been reeling under severe floods for almost a week and at least 1,700 villages across the province, including the Sikh sacred site of Kartarpur, are inundated.

"Flood water has entered Lahore after 38 years. After the 1988 floods, the water flow measuring 2,20,000 in the Ravi at 7 am today is so far the highest one," Lahore Deputy Commissioner Syed Musa Raza told journalists.

The government said the unprecedented monsoon rain and the release of excess water from the Indian side swelled the three eastern rivers -- the Sutlej, Ravi and Chenab.

Northwest India and Pakistan's Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces have been witnessing torrential rains for over 10 days resulting in almost all rivers and tributaries flowing over danger levels.

"If there is no discharge of water from India downstream, we can expect a reduction in the flows in the next 2-3 days," he said.

"At least 1,700 villages across Punjab have been inundated this week while standing crops on thousands of acres have been destroyed in the devastating floods," the Punjab government said in a statement.

The rescue teams of various administrative departments, as well as the Pakistan army, have evacuated over one million people so far. "Extremely high floods in eastern rivers have also resulted in the loss of 22 lives in 24 hours," the statement added.

On Friday, floodwaters entered Lahore, situated on the banks of Ravi, and inundated 13 residential localities, damaging roads, houses and other infrastructure, officials said.

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz visited the Ravi banks and noted that "the province's early warning system was functioning effectively, allowing the timely evacuation of residents."

Court dismisses Thai PM over call with Cambodia leader

BANGKOK, AP/PTI: Thailand's Constitutional Court on Friday dismissed Paetongtarn Shinawatra from her position as prime minister, ruling that as the country's leader, she violated constitutional rules on ethics in a phone call with Cambodia's Senate President Hun Sen.

Paetongtarn Shinawatra

The ruling means she immediately loses her job, which she had held for about a year. Paetongtarn was suspended from her duties on July 1 when the court agreed to hear the case against her, and Deputy Prime Minister Phumtham Wechayachai took over her responsibilities.

The Cabinet led by Phumtham is expected to stay in place on a caretaker basis until Parliament approves a new prime minister.

The caretaker Cabinet could also dissolve Parliament and call a new election. Paetongtarn's leaked June 15 call with Hun Sen was aimed at easing tensions over their border dispute, but sparked outrage in Thailand because Paetongtarn seemed overly friendly in discussing a matter of national security and appeared to malign a Thai army general.

Important for India, China to work together: Modi

TOKYO, PTI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said it is important for India and China to work together to bring stability to the world economic order as he asserted that New Delhi is ready to advance bilateral ties from a strategic and long-term perspective based on mutual respect, mutual interest and mutual sensitivity.

In an interview with *The Yomiuri Shimbun* during his ongoing visit to Japan, Modi also asserted that stable, predictable, and amicable bilateral ties between India and China can have a positive impact on regional and global peace and prosperity.

Asked about the importance of improving relations with China at this time, Modi said, "At the invitation of President Xi Jinping, I would be travelling to Tianjin from here to take part in the SCO Summit. Since my meeting with President Xi in Kazan last year, steady and positive progress has been made in our bilateral ties."

Stable, predictable, and amicable bilateral relations between India and China, as two neighbours and the two largest nations on earth, can have a positive impact on regional and global peace and prosperity, he said.

This is also crucial for a multi-polar Asia and a multi-polar world, he added. "Given the current volatility in world economy, it is also important for India and China, as two major economies, to work together to bring stability to the world economic order," Modi said.

India is ready to advance bilateral relations from a strategic and long-term perspective on the basis of mutual respect, mutual interest and mutual sensitivity, and to enhance strategic communication to address our developmental challenges, he said.

On his views on the Japanese government's concept of a free and open Indo-Pacific, Modi said there is a strong convergence between Japan's vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific and India's own approach encapsulated in our Indo-Pacific vision, in the 'Vision MAHASAGAR' and the Indo-Pacific Oceans' Initiative.

India and Japan are committed to an Indo-Pacific that is peaceful, prosperous, stable and where the territorial integrity and sovereignty of nations are respected, the prime minister said. "Both our countries have strong and extensive linkages with countries in the Indo-Pacific region, and we both engage with some of them in plurilateral formats to give expression to our shared objectives," he said.

A car is set on fire during a protest in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on Friday. AFP

Protests rock Indonesia capital

▶ Tensions soared in Indonesia's capital on Friday after a delivery rider was allegedly run over by a police armoured vehicle during clashes between riot police and students protesting against lawmakers' allowances, AP/PTI reports from Jakarta.

Protesters marched to the headquarters of the police mobile brigade in central Jakarta early Friday, and some attempted to storm the compound. Police used tear gas to disperse the crowds. An angry group of protesters set fire to a police post and cars parked near the police compound. They also destroyed traffic signs and other infrastructure, causing traffic to come to a standstill in the area. The unrest came after a video on social media, apparently showing the death of the motorcycle taxi driver during Thursday's clashes, shocked the nation and spurred a broader outcry against the security forces. The victim was reportedly completing a food delivery service order when he was caught in the clash.

Government of Karnataka
Office of the, Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Ballari

No.PWD/EE/Bly/TS-4/2851/2025-26 Date : 28-08-2025.

Short Term Tender Notification

The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division, Ballari invites the tenders for the works detailed in the table from the eligible contractors registered in Karnataka Public Works Department, through Karnataka Public Procurement portal (KPPP). Two cover tender procedure as per KTPP Act shall be followed. The tender documents can be downloaded from the web-site https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. For any additional information the tenderers may contact the office of the undersigned during office working hours.

Note : For any changes either in tender dates or any other conditions or if recalled, tenderers can view in KPP portal. Separate notification in this regard will not be published.

TABLE

Sl No	Details of Works	Reservation Deatils	Estimate Cost (Rs.in Lakhs)
	3054-(Non-Plan)-Maintenance of State Highways :		
1)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT25071	General	62.74
2)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT25040	General	74.29
3)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT24172	ST	95.79
4)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT24979	General	24.35
5)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT24996	General	99.00
	3054-(Non-Plan)-Maintenance of Major District Roads :		
6)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT25049	General	72.96
7)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT25062	Category-II(A)	71.23
8)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT25042	General	70.84
9)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT25116	Category-II(A)	68.31
10)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT24775	General	63.00
11)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT24682	SC	72.19
12)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT25090	SC	73.35
13)	PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT25245	General	76.24

The Tender Events are as under :

2)Last dates for queries (through KPP-procurement portal): **02-09-2025 upto 12.00 Hours**
3)Last date for submission of tenders through KPP portal: **06-09-2025 upto 16.00 Hours**
4)Date and time of opening of Technical Bids.: **08-09-2025 at 11.00 Hours in the office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Ballari**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Ballari.

DIPR/Ballari/408/KSMCA/2025-26

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (MPED-C)
BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002.

No. EE(MPED-C)/TEND/03/2025-26 Date: 29.08.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Two Cover System (Only through GoK KPP Portal)

The Executive Engineer (MPED-C), BBMP, Bengaluru on behalf the Chief Commissioner, BBMP and Special Commissioner (Revenue/Estate), BBMP invites Proposals from eligible bidders for the following work.

Name of work : **Long Term Leasing of BBMP Vacant Corner Land Plot on J.C. Road, Bengaluru for Development of Commercial Establishment.** EMD: **Rs.20.00 lakhs** (Out of which Rs 18 lakh as Bank Guarantee and rest Rs. 2 lakh paid in e-Procurement portal).

Calendar of Events: (1) Bid documents may be downloaded from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 30.08.2025 upto 3.00 pm. (2)** Date of Pre-bid Meeting : **04.09.2025 at 3.00 pm at the Office of the Special Commissioner (Revenue and Estate), BBMP Head Office premises, 1st Floor, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-02. (3)** Last date for seeking clarification, if any : **03.09.2025 at 3.00 pm. (4)** Last date & time for uploading of tender : **10.09.2025 upto 5.00 pm. (5)** Date & time of opening of Technical bids: **11.09.2025 at 5.30 pm. (6)** Date & time of opening of Financial bids: **Immediately after the uploading of Technical Bid evaluation.** Contact person for queries: **Deputy Commissioner (Estate), Mob: 9480683456, Email: bbmpestate@gmail.com** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer (MPED-C) BBMP

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು.

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E-Mail ID: comm_ckg@yahoo.co.in, Website: www.chickmagalur.gov.in

ಸಂ.ಸಿಎಂಸಿ/ಸಿಕೆಎಂ/ವಿ.ಯೋ/ಸಿಆರ್/65/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26.08.2025

ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಯೋಜನೆ ಮತ್ತು ನಗರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿಯ ವಿಶೇಷ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ದರ್ಜೆಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಷರತ್ತುಗಳಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ವಿವರ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
1	DMA/2025-26/WS/WORK INDENT48130	35.00	47.800.00
2	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK INDENT48092	8.91	19,000.00
3	DMA/2025-26/EL/WORK_INDENT47583	54.80	93,000.00
4	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK INDENT48365	10.00	21,500.00

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಬೆಲೆ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಂತೆ. **ಕಾಲಾವಧಿ–06 ತಿಂಗಳು (ಮಳೆಗಾಲ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ)**

1. ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10.09.2025ರ 17:30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ.
2. ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12.09.2025ರ 11:00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾರಣಾಂತರಗಳಿಂದ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳಾದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ದಿನಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಗಮನಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಸಹಿ/– ಸಹಿ/–
ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಬಿ. ಶೀಲಾ ದಿನೇಶ್, ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು. **ಅನು ಮಧುಕರ್,** ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಚಿಕಮಗಳೂರು. **ಬಿ.ಸಿ. ಬಸವರಾಜು** ಕೆ.ಎಂ.ಎ.ಎಸ್., ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು.

India will not bow down and appear weak in trade deal: Goyal

Centre working on measures to support tariff-hit exporters

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Reacting sharply to the imposition of high tariffs by the US, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Friday said India would not bow down and compromise its self-respect in trade negotiations.

"If any country wants to enter into a free trade agreement with us, we are always ready. But I believe that any form of discrimination affects the self-confidence and self-respect of India's 1.4 billion citizens. Keeping that in mind, we will neither bow down nor ever appear weak," the minister said.

Speaking at the curtain raiser event of Bharat Buildcon, the minister said the government would provide all support to industry in managing foreign trade-related stress.

"We in the Commerce Ministry, through our Missions, are reaching out to other parts of the world, to look at other opportunities which we can capture," Goyal said, underlining the need for diversification of export markets.

Without naming the United States, the minister said the current situation in international trade is the result of unilateral action.

The United States has imposed a 50% tariff on imports of the majority of goods from India. This includes 25% reciprocal tariff and additional 25% punitive duty for purchase of Russian crude and military equipment. The US is India's largest importer of goods. High tariffs are likely to badly hit India's exports, especially the labour-intensive sectors like textiles, apparel, leather goods, metals, chemicals and gems & jewelry.

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal. PTI FLE PHOTO

However, Goyal expressed hope that India's exports in the current financial year would surpass the year's numbers. In the financial year ended March 2025, India's overall exports, goods and services put together, stood at around $825 billion.

"The government will be coming out with a variety of measures to support every sector, both to expand the domestic outreach and look for complementarities in other markets around. Our exports will exceed last year's exports," he said.

The minister underlined that India has signed trade deals with several developed countries including the United Kingdom, Australia, Switzerland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland and the UAE.

He said a free trade agreement is likely to be signed with Oman soon and Qatar has also expressed interest in starting a trade deal negotiation with India.

"Yesterday, Qatar's minister told me that they want to start negotiations...Of course, we are talking to the US for a Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA). First phase, we have planned to complete by fall (October-November) this year. All these engagements will open up new opportunities, new markets, and new investment possibilities," he said.

According to the minister, the central government is working on a set of measures to support exporters hit due to the US tariffs. The proposed measures include emergency credit line guarantee scheme for MSME, moratorium on export loans to allow exporters operational space without asset downgrades, and extension of export realisation period to ease cash flow challenges caused by longer payment cycles.

Reliance to launch battery giga factory in 2026

Jamnagar will host the new factory

NEW DELHI, PTI

Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) is doubling down on its clean energy business with planned start of a mega battery production factory in 2026, a solar electricity project three times the size of Singapore, and 3 million tonnes of green hydrogen capacity by 2032 as it pivots away from fossil fuel.

Making his debut at the company's annual general meeting, Anant Ambani, the youngest son of billionaire Mukesh Ambani and executive director of Reliance, said the company is building the world's most integrated new energy ecosystem -- from sand to electrons to green molecules.

The company is investing in producing every single piece of clean energy -- modules that will turn sunlight into electricity, batteries that can store the energy, electrolysers that can use such renewable energy to split water molecule to produce the fuel of the future -- hydrogen, giga factories to produce green hydrogen and its derivatives like green ammonia and green methanol for domestic and export market, make sustainable aviation fuel, and produce biofuels from organic waste.

He said the company is creating platforms to deliver a multi-pronged, gigawatt-scale clean energy ecosystem -- solar, battery storage, hydrogen -- all under one roof.

Products from the giga factories would be deployed for delivering round-the-clock renewable power and producing green chemicals, including green ammonia, e-methanol, and sustainable aviation fuel.

Anant Ambani. REUTERS FILE PHOTO

Jamnagar is the site for Reliance's twin oil refineries -- the largest single site oil refining complex globally. The same place will now also be the home for the world's largest new energy complex.

At Jamnagar, work on the Dhirubhai Ambani Giga Energy Complex is progressing at record pace. It will be unmatched globally in size, scale, and integration.

"Jamnagar will be the cradle of both the world's largest Conventional Energy complex and the world's largest New Energy complex. Jamnagar is the face of New Reliance and New India," he said.

Jio Platforms eyes listing in first half of 2026

NEW DELHI, PTI: Jio Platforms, the entity that houses Reliance Industries' telecom and digital businesses, is gearing up for an initial public offering (IPO) and stock market listing in the first half of 2026, RIL Chairman Mukesh Ambani said Friday, sparking wide expectations that the share-sale could be the biggest in the country's history.

Jio is currently a unit of Reliance Industries, India's most valuable company, and while the Reliance Industries Chairman did not disclose the quantum of shares to be listed nor the size of the IPO, market pundits are speculating that a 10% share-sale could be in the offing.

Addressing the annual shareholder meeting of the company, Ambani said, "Jio is making all arrangements to file for its IPO. We are aiming to list Jio by the first half of 2026, subject to all necessary approvals."

Jio Platforms Ltd (JPL) houses Reliance Jio Infocomm, India's largest telecom operator that boasts of 500 million (50 crore) users. JPL has marquee global and tech investors including Google and Meta, underscoring strong strategic partnerships and a culture of tech innovation.

"I am sure that it will be a very attractive opportunity for all investors," he said, and promised that Jio's plans for the future are "even more ambitious".

Ambani asserted that the IPO will demonstrate Jio's capability of creating the same quantum of value as global counterparts. JPL is currently 66.3% owned by RIL.

UNIQLO opens outlet in B'luru

Former cricketer Rahul Dravid (centre), Kenji Inoue, COO and CFO, UNIQLO India (left) and Joint MD of Brigade Group Nirupa Shankar at the opening of a UNIQLO store at Orion Mall, in Bengaluru, on Friday. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

BENGALURU, DHNS: Japanese apparel retailer UNIQLO opened its first store in Bengaluru on Thursday, expanding its presence into South India for the first time. The store is located at Orion Mall, Brigade Gateway and it was inaugurated in the presence of cricketing legend Rahul Dravid who joined UNIQLO India officials for the ribbon cutting ceremony.

The outlet covers 9,012 square feet on the ground floor and brings UNIQLO's "LifeWear" range to the city. The Bengaluru store is the brand's 17th in India since it entered the market in 2019.

On opening day eager shoppers had lined up outside from as early as 7 am waiting to be among the first inside. The store features collections for men, women and children, including tech-driven winter wear such as HEATTECH, PUFFTECH and AIRism, along with fabrics like fleece, denim and cashmere.

Market decline wipes out Rs 11.21L cr wealth

NEW DELHI, PTI: Market investors became poorer by Rs 11.21 lakh crore in three days of selling pressure, where the benchmark Sensex tumbled 1,826 points.

In the past three trading days, the BSE benchmark has plummeted 1,826.26 points or 2.23%. On Friday, the 30-share BSE Sensex dropped 270.92 points or 0.34% to settle at 79,809.65. During the day, it declined 338.81 points or 0.42% to 79,741.76.

The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms eroded by Rs 11,21,459.36 crore to Rs 4,43,65,504.09 crore ($5.05 trillion) in three days.

"The Sensex ended Friday's trade on a subdued note, slipping 270.92 points to close at 79,809.65 as persistent concerns over US tariffs on Indian exports weighed on investor sentiment and kept foreign inflows under pressure," Vikram Kasat, Head - Advisory at PL Capital, said.

Rupee hits all-time low of 88.09 against US dollar

MUMBAI, PTI

The rupee breached the 88-mark for the first time and closed at an all-time low of 88.09 against the US dollar on Friday, registering a sharp decline of 51 paise amid a massive outflow of foreign funds and heightened tensions over a trade deal between India and the US.

Forex traders said the rupee is under persistent pressure amid the imposition of steep tariffs by the US compounded with persistent foreign fund outflows and month-end dollar demand.

Moreover, a negative trend in domestic equities dented market sentiments.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 87.73 against the US dollar, then lost ground and fell to its lowest-ever intra-day level of 88.33. The domestic unit settled for the day at an all-time low of 88.09 against the greenback, registering a sharp fall of 51 paise over its previous close.

On Thursday, the rupee rose by 11 paise to close at 87.58 against the US dollar.

This is the first time the rupee has breached the 88/US dollar level. Its previous lowest-ever closing level was recorded at 87.88 on August 5 this year, while the earlier record of intra-day low was seen on February 10 when the unit had touched 87.95 against the greenback.

"We expect the rupee to trade with a negative bias as additional trade tariffs on India by the US raise worries over India's trade deficit. Weak domestic markets and selling pressure from FIIs may pressurise the rupee further," said Anuj Chaudhary, Research Analyst Currency and commodities Mirae Asset ShareKhan.

The Reserve Bank of India, in its latest bulletin on Thursday, said persisting uncertainties related to the US trade policies pose downside risk to the overall demand in the Indian economy, while the inflation outlook for the near-term has become more benign than anticipated earlier.

Industrial credit growth declines to 7.6% in June: RBI

MUMBAI, PTI: Growth in bank credit to industries declined to 7.6% in June 2025 from 11.3% a year ago while the personal loans segment continued to grow faster than overall advances, according to RBI data released on Friday. The Reserve Bank data also showed that bank credit growth decelerated to 9.9% in June 2025 from 15% in June 2024.

The share of loans bearing interest rates below 9% increased to 54.1% in June 2025, from 43.2% in the previous year, with the easing of policy rates, the central bank said.

"In line with monetary policy actions, the weighted average lending rate (WALR) on outstanding credit declined by 39 basis points (bps) during April-June 2025, with reductions observed across all major sectors," RBI said.

Personal loans continued to grow faster than overall credit, gradually increasing their share to 32 per cent of total credit by June 2025; within personal loans, housing loans accounted for more than half.

"Industrial credit growth (y-o-y) declined to 7.6% in June 2025 from 11.3% a year ago; its share in total credit declined marginally to 23.3% in Q1: 2025-26 from 23.8% a year ago," it said.

Hitachi Energy to invest Rs 300 crore in Mysuru facility

BENGALURU, DHNS: Hitachi Energy India Ltd., on Friday announced an investment of Rs 300 crore in its insulation and components business in India by expanding its manufacturing facility in Mysuru. The expansion will double the facility's capacity to produce EHV class pressboard and laminated board, a vital insulation material used in power and distribution transformers.

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
YELAHANKA,
BENGALURU – 560 064.
Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

E-TENDER: On behalf of the President of India, the **Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer** invites electronic tender for the following work online through the website **http://www.ireps.gov.in (Works)**

E -TENDER NOTICE No: RWF/EL/OT/ASC/ 2025-26/03 Dated: 28.08.2025

1) Tender No. RWF/EL/OT/ASC/2025-26/03 Dtd: 28.08.2025
Name of work: Overhauling of Higher Capacity motors of OAFL at RWF, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560 064.
Estimate Cost: ₹41,53,364/- EMD: ₹83,100/-
Completion period: 6 Months

TENDER NOTICE No: RWF/M/OT/AFM/ 2025-26/44 Dated: 28.08.2025

2) Tender No. RWF/M/OT/AFM/2025-26/44 Dtd: 28.08.2025
Name of work: Engagement of labor and mobile crane for carrying out Major Overhauling (MOH) of Long Forging Machine type SX- 40/1431.
Estimate Cost: ₹1,28,02,230.39
EMD: ₹2,14,000/-
Completion period: 12 Months

Closing Date & Time for Tenders: (1 & 2) 19.09.2025 at 10.30 Hrs.

This tender notice along with eligibility criteria can be viewed on our website **www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in**

Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer/AM

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. SEE/Tr(Op)/Circle-South/EE(O)/AEE-2/JE-2/F-310(4)/2025-26/2496-98 Date: 29.08.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Mode Only)

KPTCL invites bid against enquiry No: KPTCL/SEE/TR(Op)/South/EE(O)/AEE-2/25-26/EPR-12 Dated: 21.08.2025 for **"Design, Manufacture, Supply, Testing and supervision of Commissioning of Battery charger suitable for 2x220V DC with 2 Nos of 40A Float charger and 2 nos of 60A float cum boost charger type including control panels, change over arrangements etc., along with two separate DC distribution panel [Indoor]: 1I/c+20 O/G SFU 60A, 20 O/G SFU 40A at 220kV Station, Somanahalli, under Tr (Op) Circle-South KPTCL Bengaluru conforming to Technical Specifications. F.O.R.D at Store/Site basis, including insurance, transportation and unloading"**

The Bids will be received through E Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink E Procurement KPTCL' or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **30.08.2025**.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele), Transmission (Operations), Circle-South, KPTCL, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru - 09.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Chief Commissioner, Annex Building-1, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002

No.: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/1064/2025-26 **Date: 28.08.2025**

PUBLIC NOTICE
FORM-III (See Sub-rule (3) of rule-3)

In exercise of powers conferred under section **14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961** the following 'Area' mentioned in the schedule below is required by the Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for **"Widenig of Bannerughatta Main Road from Jedimara Junction at Outer Ring Road to Koli Farm Gate Junction"** for implementing the proposals of the Approved Master Plan-2015 for the **width of 45.00mtrs**.

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of land / building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued.

	Name of the District: **Bengaluru Urban**			Name of the Taluk: **Bengaluru South**				Name of the Village: **Hulimavu**								
Sl. No.	**Sy. No. / Khata No.**	**Type of land**		**Nature of Land**	**Dimension of the land / plot and extent in Sq.m**		**Boundaries of the land / plot**				**Building Details**			**Present activity on land / Building (Specify Specific activity such as shop, office, factory, apartment, individual house etc.,)**	**Market (guide lines) value of the land per Sq.m**	**Name and address of the owner of the plot / land for which DRC is to be issued.**
		Vacant	Built up	Agriculture Converted undeveloped Approved layout / developed land Building site	Dimension	Extent	East	West	North	South	Extent in Sq.m	Type of Construction and No. of floors	Floor Area Ratio			
1	Sy No.65/3, Khatha Sl No.1442	Vacant Land		Converted Land	410.71		Bannerugatta Main Road	Remaining Portion of Sy No.65/3	Road	Sy No.65/4	None	None	None	Vacant	85,800/-	Society of the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent De-Paul, Having its Office at Vincentgiri, Vemon P.O via Kartikulam-670646, North Wynad, Kerala.

Note: Market guideline value of this property is considered subject to conditions of payment of fee as per Government Order No.: ನಅಇ 137 ಎಂಎನ್‌ಯು 2024 (ಇ), ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09.09.2024 and as per the Circular No.: ಆಯುಕ್ತರು/ಪಿ.ಎಸ್.ಆರ್/ಜಿ/1802/2024–25, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.09.2024.

Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below:

Name and address of the Divisional / Sub divisional / Branch Office	Deputy Commissioner, Land Acquisition & TDR, 2nd Floor, Room No: 208, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bangalore-560002.

Sd/-,
Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Government of Karnataka
Shivamogga Institute of Medical Sciences
An Autonomous Institute of Medical Sciences
Sagar Road, Shivamogga - 577 201
www.sims-shimoga.com Ph: 08182 229933/ 264199, Fax: 08182 264100
No:SIMS/UC/Tender/2025-26 **Date: 28.08.2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement)

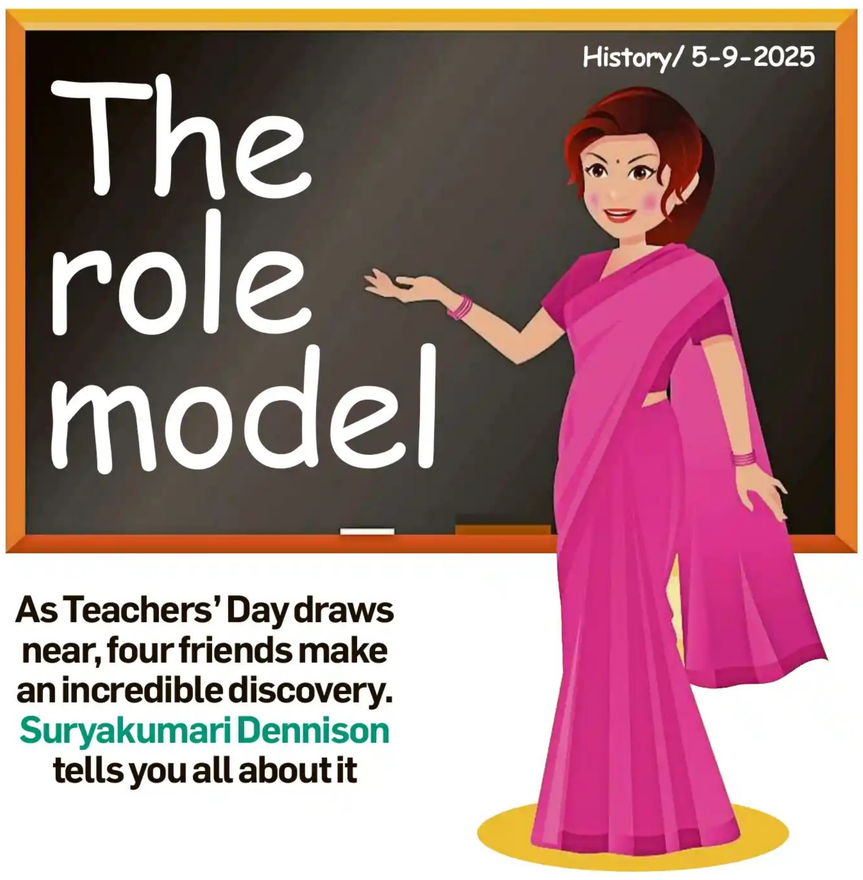
SI NO	Tender No. & Date	Name of the Item	Publish, Duration, End, Date and time.
1	**SIMS/UC/AC/CMC/03/2025-26 Dated:25.08.2025**	**Re Tender For Maintenance of AC (CMC) to SIMS Shivamogga.**	**From: 29-08-2025 to 12-09-2025 at 5.00 PM.**
2	**SIMS/CSS/Tender/Furniture/01/2025-26, Dated: 25.08.2025.**	**Re Tender For OBG & MCH Building Furniture's**	**From: 01-09-2025 to 15-09-2025 at 5.00 PM.**
3	**SIMS/EST-7/MRU-Equipment/1103202/2025-26, Dated: 28.08.2025.**	**Re Tender For MRU Equipments.**	**From: 30-08-2025 to 06-09-2025 at 5.00 PM.**

Opening of all above Tenders can be obtained through e-procurement from the tendering website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/kppp Further bidders can take assistance with e-procurement help desk at : 080-25501216, 25501227

Sd/- Director/Dean
Shivamogga Institute of Medical Sciences, Shivamogga.

DIPR/SMG/No.128-08 zenkar/2025-26

The role model



As Teachers' Day draws near, four friends make an incredible discovery. Suryakumari Dennison tells you all about it

Have you noticed that Divya ma'am's sandals are worn out?" remarked Chitra. "Her high-heels are low heels, and soon will be no heels."

"She keeps repeating her saris," groaned Pamela. "We've seen her several times in an ancient blue, that pretty but overused pink and the star-spangled orange she is wearing today. On special occasions, ma'am is invariably clad in the same old ___"

"Purple silk!" finished Chitra.

"Have you been listening to ma'am or looking at her?" said Bilal, laughing. "Has it ever occurred to you that Divya ma'am might not be well off?"

Chitra nodded. "We have considered that possibility," she replied seriously. "In fact, many at school are not as privileged as we are. Take the case of our classmate, Rani. She rarely visits the cafeteria, as she finds even the subsidised snacks there expensive."

"It must be dreadful to be short of money," said Pamela.

"I believe Rani's father has been out of work for more than a year," explained Naresh quietly.

"Returning to Divya ma'am," said Chitra, "I don't mean to sound scornful. She's a wonderful teacher and fine human being. I just wish, for her own sake, that she was better dressed. I've heard students and colleagues make unkind comments about her."

"It's hard to understand why Divya ma'am is so poorly turned out," said Naresh, who had given the subject some thought. "I've heard that the teachers' salaries here are not bad. Members of our faculty don't strike me as struggling. Indeed, I could mention several who could march in a fashion parade."

"Perhaps she has family problems," said Pamela. "I believe a relative of hers was recently in hospital. If ma'am had borrowed heavily to meet those expenses, she may have to clear her debts."

"The cousin you are talking about had medical insurance, which covered the cost," said Chitra who, like Naresh, had a way of picking up information. "Besides, Divya ma'am's husband has a decent job. No," she concluded, shaking her head, "Ma'am's neglect of herself is a mystery."

"It's no use merely discussing Divya ma'am's financial situation," said Bilal briskly. "As Chitra says, she is a good person. More importantly, from our point of view, she makes history come alive. Why don't we do something for her?"

"Great idea!" agreed Naresh.

Pamela chimed in excitedly: "A sari would be perfect."

"Footwear," said Chitra promptly.

"Handbag," suggested Pamela.

"All of them!" the girls chorused together, adding: "Divya ma'am will grab eyeballs on Teachers' Day."

"Naresh and I leave you to decide," said Bilal, smiling, "But we'll happily contribute towards whatever you choose."

The children gave generously of their pocket money, and the present was ready a week before September 5. They found it hard to concentrate on the Mauryan Empire, as they prepared to surprise Divya ma'am, later that afternoon.

"Why are you four so inattentive?" demanded Divya ma'am. "Is there something wrong with my appearance?" This was so near the mark that Chitra, Bilal, Naresh and Pamela stifled giggles.

After school was over, they lurked outside the staffroom, waiting for Divya ma'am to put away her books. Much to their annoyance, they saw Rani approaching. "What is she doing here?" muttered Chitra. The last thing the gift-givers wanted was to be observed handing over their parcel. To make matters worse, Rani was joined by her younger brother, who stood silently beside her.

Chitra and her friends hid in an alcove, hoping that the two would go away, and they could catch their teacher alone. When Divya ma'am emerged, she greeted the siblings warmly. "Sorry I've left it till the last minute," she said, handing Rani an envelope. "A circular came round an hour ago. The deadline is tomorrow. Tell your mother to pay the fees for both of you, first thing in the morning. Remember," she added, as she walked away, "this must, as usual, remain our little secret."

"Isn't Divya ma'am wonderful, Raja?" said Rani, who had no idea there was anyone within earshot. "She not only helps us but those other kids we discovered, quite by chance."

Chitra, Bilal, Naresh and Pamela sank onto chairs in an empty classroom. Suddenly, Divya ma'am's attire and accessories seemed insignificant. Their teacher possessed a star quality, which soared above superficialities. She was a supermodel — their role model!

4 BOOKS ON SPORTS

Written by Indian authors, these illustrated books talk about bravery, grit and perseverance

Fauja Singh Keeps Going

Author: Simran Jeet Singh

This is the inspiring tale of Fauja Singh, the centenarian marathon runner who ran his first marathon at 81. Through expressive illustrations by Baljinder Kaur, young readers will learn about Fauja's journey as he raced past age barriers. Singh was born with weak legs that didn't allow him to play cricket with friends.

Published by Penguin Random House, the lesson from the story is that however old you are, perseverance, passion, and belief will help you overcome obstacles and move forward in life.

Smash It, Butterfingers!

Author: Khyrunnisa A

This illustrated adventure follows 13-year-old Amar "Butterfingers" Kishen from Green Park School, as he attempts to conquer a badminton tournament or two, despite his knack for dropping rackets. He dodges superstitions and survives comic conspiracies at school. The tournament is sponsored by Brijesh K Singh, a multimillionaire who loves badminton and hates superstitions.

The illustrations by Abhijeet Kini are a perfect add-on to the storyline. The moral of the story is simple: One might fumble and fall but a little humour, creativity and grit can help overcome all those setbacks.

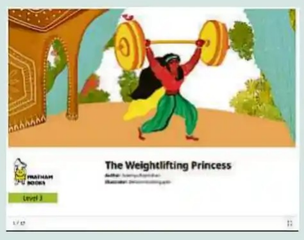
Against All Odds

Author: Ramendra Kumar

Kartik, a passionate footballer from Kolkata, faces a daunting challenge when he moves to Rourkela with his sister Kavya. His new school proves to be a harsh reality check — his disability earns him stares and whispers, and the football coach deems him unfit to play.

This uplifting tale is about a young athlete who faces multiple hurdles — both social and physical — to make his mark. As Kartik navigates his new life, he discovers that true strength lies not in physical ability, but in the power of friendship and perseverance.

The Weightlifting Princess



Author: Sowmya Rajendran

This picture book is about Princess Nila, who'd rather lift barbells than wait to be rescued. She wants to win the Surya Championship, the popular weightlifting contest in her kingdom.

It's a fairy tale that focuses on strength, and sees Nila facing many obstacles and overcoming her parents' expectations. The book emphasises on the fact that strength isn't just physical — it is about owning one's path, even if they have to step away from their comfort zone.

Printed by Pratham Books, the story promotes girl power and empowerment, encouraging young readers to pursue their passions.

POETS IN THE MAKING

Want to see your poetry in print?

Send in poems about the topic 'My superpower' to *Open Sesame*. You may be featured in an upcoming edition. Mail your work — not more than 12 lines to *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in*. Entries close on September 18. Open to children below 16 years. Don't forget to mention your name, age, and city. And send us a recent photograph.

Word of the Week
flippant
(adjective)
— not showing a serious or respectful attitude
Usage:
— The author's flippant tone downplayed the theme's seriousness.
— The flippant manager dismissed the client's concerns.

Festive season is here...

Open Sesame readers share their art

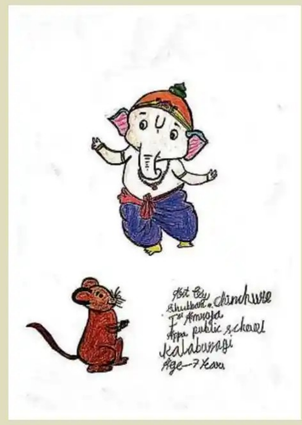
On August 16, *Open Sesame* asked its young readers to send in their artworks. Soon, we were flooded with entries from across the country. Many paintings were good, but we can only publish a few because of space constraints. Don't let that discourage you. Get creative and keep writing and painting, and stand a chance to be featured in an upcoming edition! Send your entries to: *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in*

NIKHILESH J, 13
BENGALURU, KARNATAKA

NIHARIKA, 13
BENGALURU, KARNATAKA

RUTHUPARNA ADITYA BHAT, 7
BENGALURU, KARNATAKA

SHUBHAM S CHINCHURE, 7
KALABURAGI, KARNATAKA



This Week:

Calypso country

Take the fun Open Sesame quiz, and stand a chance to win gift vouchers worth Rs 500. Open to children below 16 years.

Q1 On August 31, 1962, Trinidad and Tobago gained freedom from British rule. Elizabeth II continued as Head of State, represented by a governor-general. Which year did the country become a republic?

Q2 May 30, 1845, the ship Fatel Razack, bearing 225 indentured Indian labourers, docked at Port of Spain, Trinidad (not yet Trinidad and Tobago). What holiday commemorates that event?

Q3 Trinidadian vocalist, songwriter and guitarist, Francesco Slinger, bears the title, 'Calypso, King of the World'. What name did he adopt, in 1956, after earlier calling himself something else.

Scan the QR code
Or visit bit.ly/DHopensesame to participate in the quiz.

Q4 **Rhyme Time:** Two clues to which the answers rhyme with each other.
Clue A: Novel by Trinidadian-born VS Naipaul: 'Half a __'.
Clue B: Cutting instrument.

Q5 **Clue Cluster:** Which Trinidadian cricketer holds a joint record for taking most wickets in a single IPL edition? Use these clues.
a) Darren
b) 32
c) Harshal Patel
d) 'Champion'

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: Kotresh (14), Bengaluru; Utpalendu Tikadar (16), Harihar; Medha Shirodkar (14), Nipani.

LET'S DEBATE!

Want to take part in the upcoming *Open Sesame* debate? Share your thoughts in a crisp 200-word essay on the topic: 'Is a friendly teacher better than a strict one?' Mail your works to *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in*. Entries close on September 4. Open to children below 16 years. Don't forget to mention your name, age, school and city. And send us a recent photograph.

LETTER WRITING

Write an open letter to your future self

If you got the chance to meet yourself from from the future, what would you like to know about the future, and what would you tell him/her? Write an open letter and share it with us. You stand a chance of being featured in an upcoming edition. Mail your work to *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in*. Open to children below 16 years. Don't forget to mention your name, age, and city, and send us a recent photograph. Entries close on September 11.

ACTION! 15 HOURS ON A FILM SET

The smallest details make a film come alive. DH journalist Pranati A S watches a film being shot in Mysuru and captures the chaos behind the craft

Action director Ravi Varma isn't happy. "Cut!" he says, as he springs out of his chair and walks towards the actor. "You don't have to use much force, but your kick must be convincing," he says, telling the actor to extend his leg longer.

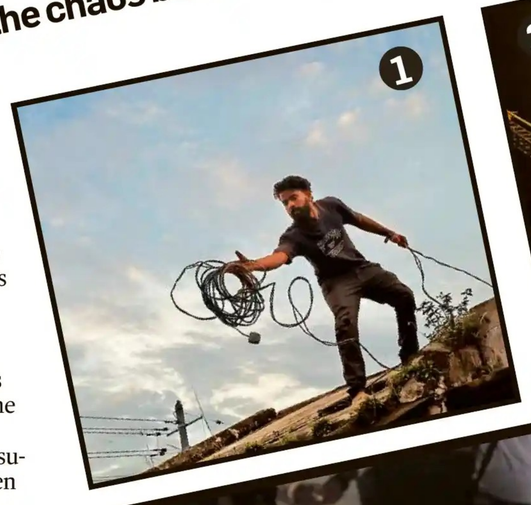
'Mango Pachcha', a Kannada crime drama now in the making, is directed by Viveka and features newcomer Sanchith Sanjeev as the hero. The shoot is underway at a pre-school on the outskirts of Mysuru. It has a courtyard, and has been transformed into the villain's den.

It is 10 pm, and the anticipation is high as Varma, the famous action director, is choreographing a fight. Yet in different corners of the set, the cast and crew are following the IPL final on their phones.

A rope is tied to the fighter taking the hero's kick. As the kick lands, an AD (assistant director) pulls up the rope to dramatise the impact. An air blower lends a light breeze, while a hose pump generates stronger gusts. Many things go into making the fight look real. It has taken the crew nearly six hours to shoot just 30 seconds of the footage.

In the 15 hours I spend on the sets, the team manages to get about four minutes of footage. The work is repetitive. The cast mouths the same dialogues over and over again, and it is shot from multiple angles. By the time the cast and crew wrap up a scene, I know the dialogues by heart!

The scenes range from a confrontation to a frame of a song montage, a phone call, a brief run-up to the climax, and 30 seconds of the climax fight.



1-3: **To create period lighting, the crew set up sodium street lamps, and used an industrial crane to mount top lighting equipment.** 4: **Action director Ravi Varma (sitting, black T-shirt) and director Viveka review a shot.** 5: **For fight scenes, actor Sanchith Sanjeev trained in MMA for a month.**
PICS: G B SIDDHU

Behind the scenes

With about 125 members in the crew across 10 departments, a film set is easily one of the most chaotic places. Caterers buzz around with tea and coffee, carpentry assistants carry drills and saws, and a senior technician occasionally yells at an understudy. But the moment the director says "roll camera" and the director of photography (DoP) says "rolling", a silence pervades the sets. Whisper, and you may get a death stare — I get one from the action director.

Despite the chaos, it is remarkable how many moving parts stay in sync. As soon as the director approves a shot, everyone moves swiftly to prepare for the next one, like actors in a well-rehearsed play preparing for the next act. The camera team shifts its equipment, and the art department gets busy in a fresh corner. What looks like a dull warehouse is soon transformed into a beautiful living room, complete with a TV, couch, and wall art. Meanwhile, the actors get touch-ups and are briefed on the next shot by ADs holding the day's script in their hands.

Improvised lines

Although screenwriters and directors spend months on the script, a lot is improvised on set. Dialogues that look good on paper may not sound right when delivered aloud — they can miss the emotion or come across as preachy. Viveka, the director, quickly revises lines in a key confrontation scene. "When the dialogue runs longer than necessary, it ruins the mood," he explains.

A shot of the villain casually eating a mango as he speaks to a guest is filmed and approved. Minutes later, the director wants a change: the villain should cut the mango first, and then eat it while speaking. "Small actions add tempo to a scene and make it feel more natural," he says.

Too much, too little

A home can reflect a character's personality, and that day, a flower vase becomes a lesson. As the art department sets up the villain's house, the director shouts, "Why is it empty? Put some flowers in it."

"We often keep empty vases at home," I muse. "My villain wouldn't keep an empty vase," Viveka says. This villain is showy — he loves wearing Ray-Ban glasses and a gold chain. He is also involved in politics and receives many visitors. "It is too modern and egalitarian for him to keep an empty vase. The film is set in early 2000s Mysuru, a tier-2 city. In such cities, a vase isn't decoration enough; a vase with flowers is," he says.

While the flowers arrive in no time, setting up a shop where "500 people smoke and drink tea every day" takes more effort. Vishwas Kashyap, the art director, sources tea strainers, cups, and glasses from a real stall. I gather the stall owner, who knows Viveka, has parted with his stuff for free, out of "love and affection".

Another discussion on authenticity comes up. When the makeup artist paints a bruise on Sanchith's cheekbone, the actor says, "When the cheekbone is punched, the wound is generally more severe." After inspecting it, the director says, "No, no, I don't want Ibrahim (one of the hero's opponents) to get so much importance. This will do."

Amid conversations and disagreements across departments, the film gradually takes shape, and the crew members begin to look like characters themselves, each playing a role in shaping the narrative.

LED lights out

By evening, blue lights bathe the outdoors, while red lights light up the villain's house. The final output can differ from the colours used on the sets, as they are often modified during post-production. The DoP keeps this in mind while designing the lighting on the sets. With DI (Digital Intermediate) technology, a film's entire look can be transformed. DI involves colour correction.

Much of the film is being shot on the streets, says DoP Shekar Chandra. "Since it is set in the early 2000s, when sodium street lights were common, we used them to recreate that feel," he explains.

"Today, street lights are all LED. We had to switch them off and use our own sodium lights," he continues.

Two cameras are used for the fight sequence I watch — Alexa Arri, and Phantom Flex 4K. Multiple cameras are used to maintain continuity in action scenes, especially since many fighters are involved and their placements can change when shots are repeated.

However, shooting with two cameras brings other challenges, as each camera captures the lighting differently.

Aesthetics is important in storytelling, but today's commercial films focus more on elevating the character than on the nuances. As a result, aesthetic shots are now mostly relegated to indie films.

Easy continuity

The editor or an assistant sits in on the sets, creating a rough cut to assess how a scene is shaping up. One key benefit of online editing is that if a line, expression, or body language doesn't work, it can be immediately reshot. "We don't usually shoot in order — if shots 1 and 16 are from the same angle, we shoot them at one go. Matching shots becomes easier with online editing," says Shekar Chandra. Back in the day, edit logs were maintained manually, and maintaining continuity used to be a big challenge.

What is sugar glass?

The villain's house is set up with props like a gramophone, wooden trunks and paintings, not to speak of flower vases. Like most production designers, Kashyap has his own inventory of props. He rents what he doesn't have. "Bengaluru is expensive for an art director. Prop rents are higher than in Mumbai and Chennai," he says.

Earlier in the day, the action director has checked the props and rubber mats for the fight to be shot later that night. The carpenters have created furniture that breaks easily. The furniture used for fights is made from scissor wood, also known as matchstick wood. It grows only in and around Chennai, and is locally called panjumaram. "Regular carpenters can't make this kind of furniture. It requires special skills," says Kashyap. To demonstrate how easily it breaks, he takes a piece between his hands and snaps it. I give it a try. It isn't so brittle in my hands!

Sugar glass is used to create props like tumblers and beer bottles. It is made from granulated sugar, water, and corn syrup. Window panes, on the other hand, are made from the same material as regular glass. But while conventional glass is cooled gradually, this glass is cooled instantly with ice. "It makes the glass shatter without sharp edges, so it doesn't cause injury," explains Kashyap.

Weapons like swords, knives, and daggers are made of rubber. Since rubber is flexible, a rigid material is placed inside to keep the props from wobbling. Kashyap speaks about another material called PUF (polyurethane foam). It is commonly used in refrigerators. When mixed with a hardener, it can be moulded into any shape and solidifies instantly. It doesn't hurt when someone is hit with it.

"There is a lot of chemistry involved in action props, and we have to make them work with physics," he says. Fake bricks, for example, are made from thermocol blocks but filled with stones to add weight.

Fights are among the most challenging situations for the art department, he says. "We use rubber mats that match the colour of the floor," he says. That day, jigsaw interlocking mats are painted red to blend with the red-oxide flooring of the villain's house.

Action behind action

Watching action director Varma is the highlight of my visit to the sets. In 2016, when he directed Shah Rukh Khan in 'Raees' and performed a chase-and-fight scene with him, the actor posted on X, "Action Director Ravi sir & Cinematography team of Mohanan sir is making me fly. Filter..." (sic). The tweet went viral, especially among Kannada audiences, who are fans of Varma's work.

Once an action director steps in, he is in control of the sets. His team of stunt professionals and an online editor accompany him. According to the director's briefing, the sequence is choreographed, directed and edited by the action director's team. Varma has about 12 team members on duty for this scene.

Sanchith, debuting as hero, has received training at Varma's studio in Bengaluru's Girinagar for a month. "It began with learning basic mixed martial arts (MMA). More than anything, it was important to learn how to fight for the camera — how to miss the opponent since you obviously can't hit him — and to maintain the expression of aggression while doing it," he says. He does stretches before a shot to avoid injuries.

The stunt team is trained extensively. "A fighter must know basic gymnastics if he wants to join a fight team. We train the team with senior fight masters for about three months before they are ready to go. They learn how much force to use while hitting, and how to avoid injuries," Varma says.

The preparation for an action sequence depends on its scale. Varma, who has directed an elaborate action scene for the upcoming 'Lahore 1947', says it involved a 10-day shoot, preceded by about a week of rehearsals with the actors.

The cast and crew rehearsed in detail — from breaking the props to timing the blasts and rope pulls. "Only, the camera wasn't rolling," Varma says. How many days the actors rehearse depends on the budget — the producers have to get the actors' dates even for the days they are just rehearsing. "Yash would rehearse for 20 days," he says. Varma has directed Yash in films like 'Googly', 'Gajakesari', and 'Mr and Mrs Ramachari'.

All of this is preceded by 10-15 days of groundwork — from location scouting to making sure the props break convincingly. A concern is to make action feel realistic, not over-the-top.

Darshan's story

Actors usually hesitate to kick or hit with force, I learn. Varma has an interesting story about actor Darshan, now a murder accused facing trial. "He would never hit anyone while shooting. The impact after a kick or punch must look natural. But that doesn't mean I tell actors to thrash their opponents," Varma says, laughing.

His team takes every precaution to avoid injury. Body parts likely to be hit are padded, and sometimes rubber is attached to the soles to reduce impact during kicks. "The only challenge is when the fight involves being barefoot or bare-bodied. Actors may have to take a bit of impact," he says.

Varma's job is to elevate the hero as a saviour, offering escapism, hope, and justice all at once. But the job isn't easy. "For us, life is like walking on thorns. Despite all precautions, some accidents do occur," he says.

Like this story? Email: dhonsat@deccanherald.co.in

MUSICANA

A musician who blends synthpop tunes with brooding lyrics

Twenty-one-year-old Mandira began writing music at 12. This year she releases her debut EP, writes Caitlin Lester

Even for a talented young indie artiste who lives and breathes music, the current climate of the music industry is "absolutely challenging".

Bengaluru-based Mandira, originally from Manipal, possesses a pure, effortless voice, and a striking stage presence. She creates original and exciting synthpop tunes which are deceptively feel-good, until a closer listen reveals dark, brooding lyrics.

The 21-year-old released her third single in June and has an EP set for release before the end of the year.

"Releasing music without a manager is stressful — I dread it," says Mandira, adding, "The market is full of brain rot music. It's incredibly hard to swim through it all and find your audience."

Her music, she adds, does not cater to short-attention spans or instant gratification — it's deeper, more emotional.

But even if no one was listening, she'd still be making music. Her lyrics put it simply: "Music is all that I have and all that I am."

Mandira has always had an affinity for the stage. She recalls performing "mini concerts" at age five on her grandmother's balcony. "I would scream out songs from the Barbie movies to a non-existent audience," she recalls.

After a childhood filled with singing contests and talent shows, Mandira started writing and composing music at 12, and it became her lifeline through the "dark times".

She doesn't sugarcoat it: "Music is the only reason I'm alive right now."

"But I was able to do something with all those big emotions and create something beautiful I could be proud of," she says.

Although her songs are deeply personal, Mandira believes many of her listeners must share her experiences. "I want to give them comfort," she says. "And, of course, groove and rhythm too."

Her recent single, 'Eyes on the road', is about dissociation — something Mandira is familiar with. "It's a reminder to people who like to disappear into a world inside their head to not give up on the real world."

A second single from the upcoming EP, a folk-influenced track called 'Normal anxiety', is set for release by October. Mandira says it is "way more intense" and experimental, using breath as an instrument.

With over 300 songs already written, Mandira is ready for more than just her regular performances in Bengaluru. "I'm manifesting a world tour," she says. "I feel so alive on stage — I can't imagine doing anything else."

She still holds imaginary "mini concerts" in her room, picturing every detail; the production, the lights, the choreography, the roar of the crowd. That immersive vision is what she brings to her listeners: not just songs, but a full experience, carefully imagined down to the last beat.

Mandira has written over 300 songs.
PIC: CAANNU ZAZA

MID-YEAR STOCKTAKING

Blockbuster flops

The most expensive projects of the year are sinking because all they do is content rotation, writes Amogh Ravindra

At the start of 2025, the film calendar looked like a game of blockbuster bingo. Pan-India spectacle? Check. Star-studded comeback? Check. Political thriller, legacy sequel? All checked. It was as if the industry had dusted off the mistakes of the last few years, looked around solemnly, and said, 'This time, we've got it'. Budgets ballooned, promotions went into overdrive, teasers were treated like events. It all pointed to a comeback season. But eight months in, the victory lap feels premature. Most of the big guns have already been fired, and instead of a box office roar, there's the awkward sound of a slow clap. The build-up was massive. The follow-through, not so much.

The recent big release 'Coolie' was meant to topple the box office. Rajinikanth teamed up with Lokesh Kanagaraj, Anirudh turned up the volume, and the trailer looked like it had already declared victory. The hype was deafening. Theatres were packed. Records tumbled. But once the noise settled, something didn't quite land. The emotion felt patchy. The story lacked grip. 'Jailer', which was released less than two years ago, had a similar scale but somehow felt warmer. 'Coolie' was loud. 'Jailer' lingered.

The trend didn't stop there. 'War 2' brought Hrithik Roshan and Jr NTR together under the banner of a franchise with sky-high expectations and a mountain of budget. It opened modestly, but the buzz faded fast. The emotional core barely registered, and by week two, even loyal fans had moved on. 'Game Changer', directed by Shankar and headlined by Ram Charan, promised a sweeping political epic. What arrived was a sermon in IMAX. 'Thug Life', meant to be a landmark reunion between Kamal Haasan and Mani Ratnam, got tangled in controversy before it could even settle. A few remarks sparked a backlash in Karnataka. Whether it was a misstep or a marketing move remains unclear. Either way, the headlines didn't help. And then there was the Surya-starrer 'Retro' (directed by Karthik Subbaraj). It came in with genre swagger and neon confidence, but once the lights dimmed, the plot lost its way. Audiences walked in intrigued and walked out unsure of what they had just watched. 'Ekka;, the much-hyped Kannada film backed by not one, not two, but three major production houses, also missed the mark. Big names, big push, but the magic never showed up.

The much hyped 'Coolie', which marked Rajinikanth's 50th year in cinema, turned out to be a disaster. 'Thug Life', which brought Kamal Haasan and Mani Ratnam together after 38 years, didn't fare well either.

Hollywood has not been spared either. Once-guaranteed blockbusters like 'Fantastic Four', 'Superman: Legacy', and 'Thunderbolts' are wobbling under the weight of delays, constant rewrites, and growing audience indifference. The superhero fatigue conversation is no longer a whisper. It is turning up in empty theatres, muted fanfare, and teaser trailers that barely trend beyond day one. What used to be bulletproof formulas are now showing cracks, and the sheen of interconnected universes is wearing thin. Even nostalgia seems to be running out of things to recycle.

This shift is not surprising. The audience has moved on, and the industry is still trying to catch up. Years of streaming have reshaped how attention is earned and how quickly it is lost. Theatres are no longer the default choice. They are an effort. When a film competes with the comfort of a couch and a catalogue of global cinema just a click away, it needs more than just scale. It is not enough to flash a superstar or crank up the volume. Viewers have been watching Korean thrillers with air-tight plots, Spanish dramas that cut deeper, and Malayalam indies that do more in silence than most blockbusters do in three hours. OTT has become a buffet. The audience is not starving. They are spoilt. They have tasted better, so they expect better. A soaring score cannot fake emotion. A plot twist cannot save a hollow script. And recycled stories, no matter how glossy, are being met with shorter conversations and quieter exits. What is quietly killing these films is not just failure. It is forgettability. The most expensive projects of the year are vanishing within days. They are discussed, dissected, and quickly replaced by the next trailer. Somewhere along the way, cinema slipped into content rotation. Just another scroll on a screen.

Not everything has drowned in noise though. 'Su from So', a small-budget film without the cushion of pre-release hype, broke through the clutter. Its writing was specific, its tone unforced, and it built its following the old way. Slowly, quietly, and honestly. It reminded everyone that sincerity, even in whispers, travels far.

There is still some time left. 'Kantara Chapter 1', 'Madharaasi', 'Dhurandar', and 'Raja Saab' are among the few major releases with a shot at shifting the narrative. Some arrive with goodwill, others with genre muscle. Whether they deliver impact or quietly join the year's growing list of near-misses remains to be seen. And while 2025 might be limping toward the finish line, the industry already has its eyes on next year's heavyweights. 'Toxic', with its stylised grit, and 'Ramayana', with its mythical ambition and sky-high budget, are both being lined up as redemption arcs. The kind of films meant to not just roar but echo. But for now, 2025 feels like a year that came in shouting and may quietly bow out. And as the dust settles, one question lingers. Not how big a film looked. But how deeply it stayed.

Backed by three major production houses, 'Ekka' failed to make a mark.

FEEDBACK
Send your ideas and comments to dhonsat @deccanherald.co.in

Tharun Sudhir back as producer with 'Elumale'

Director of hit film Kaatera tells Pranati A S that his new production, set for release next week, is a romantic thriller

Kannada director Tharun Sudhir, known for his critically acclaimed 'Kaatera' returns as a producer for the second time. His first film was the Sharan-starrer 'Guru Shishyaru' (2022). The film is titled 'Elumale' (which translates to seven hills) and the story unfolds around Male Mahadeshwara, a pilgrim town that constitutes seven hills in a 77-hill range.

"It is set in Chamarajanagara, at the Karnataka-Tamil Nadu border and is based on real incidents from the early 2000s," Tharun tells *Showtime*. The one-night tale is a combination of an intense love story and a thriller. Rana plays a boy from Chamarajanagara and Priyanka Achar plays a girl from Salem, a Tamil Nadu town close to the Karnataka border.

The film is directed by debutante director Punit Rangaswamy who worked with Tharun as an assistant director in 'Kaatera'. Punit has also written the lyrics for a song in 'Guru Shishyaru' and 'Kaatera'.

Actors Rana and Priyanka Achar.

While Rana last appeared in the film 'Ekalavya', this is Priyanka's debut. Tharun was a judge on the Zee Kannada talent hunt show, 'Mahanati'. That was where he first spotted Priyanka, who went on to win the competition.

Tharun Sudhir

As a producer, Tharun says he prefers to collaborate with directors whose stories excite him. "It's the content that drives me into production. And when I'm not directing, I can be actively involved in production, which also helps me in direction," he adds.

Speaking about the kind of stories that excite him, Tharun says, "I feel movies are always about the experience. If it's a horror movie, we should be able to create a scary experience. If it's a love story, you have to feel good. If it's humour, you have to laugh out loud. So it's not the genre, it's the experience." When he listens to a script, he should be able to experience it, irrespective of the genre. "If I feel like this is a story we need to tell the audience, if there's a driving force behind it, then I feel like producing it," he shares.

The reason for a lack of love stories in the Kannada film industry, Tharun believes, is because the genre does not appeal to today's generation. "If we make an 'Ek Duje Ke Liye' today, I'm not sure how it'll be received. However, there have been attempts. For instance, 'Vishnu Priya' was released in 2025. It's all about what the audience is asking," he opines. Reflecting on the popularity of 'Saiyaara' with the younger audience, Tharun explains that what the audience wants "cannot be determined with one film".

He believes that some of the new age filmmakers show great potential. "Last year we had some very good newcomers. Even 'Su from So' was made by a debut director. It's always good when you have a lot of new talent coming in. I'm looking forward to it," he shares.

'Elumale' will be released in theatres next week.

MOVIE REVIEWS

Ode to lost childhood and the magic of cinema

S VISWANATH

★★★½☆

Andondittu Kaala

Kannada (Theatres)

Director: Keerthi Krishnappa

Cast: Vinay Rajkumar, Aditi Prabhudeva

'Andondittu Kaala', which translates to 'Those were the times', is the title of Vinay Rajkumar's latest film. The grandson of legendary Dr Rajkumar has come a long way since his debut 'Ananthu vs Nusrath'. He has been living up to the rich legacy of his family, providing clean, family-oriented and sentimental entertainers.

He plays the role of Kumara, whose father is a tent cinema projector operator. The young lad is so fascinated by films that he aspires to be a film director one day. So begins director Keerthi Krishnappa's 'Andondittu Kaala' as also Kumara's quest. The film dutifully traces the pain and pangs, angst and anxieties, ebbs and tides of school going child, Kumara, who later matures into a popular filmmaker.

Debutant director Keerthi, takes audiences on a trip through the idyllic life of the '90s, devoid of violence and double entendres. It was a time when bunking classes to watch movies was a cherished childhood fixture, romance had an innocent charm and support was the cornerstone of friendship.

Vinay Rajkumar plays an aspiring filmmaker.

The film pays obeisance to stalwarts of Kannada cinema, Puttanna Kanagal in particular. We watch Kumar achieve his life's ambition, egged on by the support of his friends, emboldened by his mother's wish, and anchored by the love of his life Vasundhara. In doing so, director Keerthi provides a ringside view of how discouraging and discourteous the industry is towards aspirants.

What, however, turns irksome is needless Kannada versus English language confrontations and conflict between rich and poor in the first half, and a highly preachy second half.

The film is ably supported by an ensemble cast. V Ravichandran appears in a cameo. The cinematography by Abhishek G Kasaragoodu is appealing and is aided by a good background score, and catchy songs by music composer Raghavendra V.

'Andondittu Kaala' turns out to be a heart-warming family drama.

Mildly intriguing thriller set amid breathtaking locales

PRANATI A S

For a six-episode mini-series (about 100 minutes in total), 'Shodha' takes its time to take off. It gets gripping only by the third episode. This, in a way, also shows the nature of the place it is set in — a sleepy town which wakes up after a crime.

Set in Madikeri, 'Shodha' follows Rohit (Pawan Kumar), a lawyer whose wife Meera (Siri Ravikumar), disappears without warning. Following this, he meets with an accident. When he wakes up, his wife is back, but he fails to recognise her. It is suggested that he has some kind of amnesia. Rohit is adamant that she is not his wife, but there is enough evidence to prove she is.

The rest of the series follows Rohit's attempts to prove that the woman is not his wife, while simultaneously uncovering something bigger. Billed as a thriller series, 'Shodha' ends with a rather underwhelming suspense reveal. Amidst all this, the plot keeps shifting back to the 1700s, narrating the story of a brave woman called Devika (Sapthami Gowda). These flashbacks add little to the main plot — and with each episode running only 18 minutes, the makers could have made better use of the time.

Pawan Kumar

★★½☆☆

Shodha

Kannada (Zee5)

Director: Sunil Mysuru

Cast: Pawan Kumar, Siri Ravikumar, Anusha Ranganath, Arun Sagar, Ravi Hunsur

The series is directed by Sunil Mysuru of 'Orchestra Mysuru' fame. After watching 'Shodha', it becomes apparent that many restrictions and perhaps meaningless demands seemed to have come from the producer or the streaming partner. With audiences now far too familiar with web series, the makers have to make a huge leap to meet expectations. This is true for new content across languages.

Nevertheless, 'Shodha' can be watched for the breathtaking landscapes, aesthetics, and brilliant performances from the cast.

Music lifts predictable story set in Kashmir

RASHMI VASUDEVA

'What is your opinion about wearing a burqa?' a friend asks Noor Begum. "It is the woman's choice...if she wishes to wear, she should; if not, she should not. Just like some men wear pants, some pyjamas," Noor replies almost guilelessly.

Quite the only dialogue with any political overtone in this gentle movie that glides through the life of Noor Begum (inspired by legendary Kashmiri singer Raj Begum). Kashmir, in this tale of quiet rebellion, serves as a beautiful backdrop at best, and its seething conflicts, growing discontent, and religious clashes barely get a mention.

Saba Azad, as the young Zeeba/Noor, is quite poised; her mannerisms and dialogue delivery are apt, even effortless. Soni Razdan's portrayal of the older Noor shines with subtle pauses and glances; her sighs tell many stories.

In its admittedly naive simplicity, there is a charm, a certain softness that makes you want to be less critical and more accommodating. The music by Abhay Sopori, inspired by Kashmiri folk and sung mellifluously by Masrat Un Nissa, is the true soul of the film. The story, however, unfolds most predictably, so much so that even the 'big confrontation' of Noor's life — with her moji (mother), who is steeped in orthodoxy — does not jolt you at all. There is no edge to any of the conflicts Noor faces, nor is there enough drama around the suspicious fire that destroys nearly all the records of her performances. But there is music, tender and beguiling.

Saba Azad in 'Songs of Paradise'.

★★½☆☆

Songs of Paradise

Hindi (Amazon Prime Video)

Director: Danish Renzu

Cast: Saba Azad, Soni Razdan, Zain Khan Durrani, Taaruk Raina

Vijay Raghavendra shines in rural crime thriller

V L ASHRIT

Set in Malnad's Sannakoppa village, rural crime thriller 'Rippan Swamy' opens with the suicide of the titular character. After his death, the film slowly reveals layers of immorality, betrayal and hatred, through flashbacks. They offer a clear picture of Swamy's world.

The film is centred on Swamy, who has a pork business. The main plot twists and turns are driven by the five people who work for him. These characters find themselves in unnecessary trouble, also providing wholesome entertainment. The story takes an interesting turn with the arrival of Anjumala, a loyal police officer, who suspects the small, quiet village is rife with crime. The plot thickens when Swamy's close associate goes missing.

Vijay Raghavendra

Vijay Raghavendra delivers a compelling performance as Rippan Swamy. His portrayal of a cruel and psychotic man leaves the viewers feeling a mix of anger, disappointment, and pride.

Director Kishore Moodubidri excels in his direction. The film's writing, however, needed more control and more emphasis was needed in developing the Malayali character Kuppu. Had the tribal songs, which appear remotely on screen, been used more meaningfully, it would have added more dimension to the story.

Ranganath's cinematography is striking. Samuel Abi's music needed more magic. Apart from the occasional abrupt cuts, Shashank Narayan's editing was also neat.

★★★☆☆

Rippan Swamy

Kannada (Theatres)

Director: Kishore Moodbidri

Cast: Vijay Raghavendra, Ashwini Chandrashekar, Yamuna Srinidhi, Prakash Thuminad

Tired cliches in north-south romance

TAHER AHMED

There are certain stereotypes we associate with regions and people, and Param Sundari could be a textbook definition of seeing these stereotypes on screen. A rich and spoilt brat who never really worked a day in his life, wants to invest in a billion-dollar idea using his father's money. The playboy then falls in love with a southern belle who has faced hardships and is now looking after her younger sister. You get the gist.

Sidharth Malhotra stars as Param, a wannabe investor who is pulled towards investing in an app which finds your soulmate. The app points him to Kerala, where Sundari (Janhvi Kapoor) is supposed to be his 100% match. The catch? His father refuses to give him the money until he has proof of concept, and Param lands at Sundari's homestay in a bid to gather the proof.

As he fulfils his destiny to invest in a future unicorn, Param finds himself falling in love with Sundari. However, Sundari's wedding is fixed to her childhood best friend, Venu (Siddhartha Shankar), a soft-spoken well-mannered all-rounder in life.

Param realises the way to win over Sundari is to win over the town and what better way to do so than by winning the Onam trophy which has evaded the town for years.

The movie lacks substance, with no noteworthy performances. The dialogues are intended to make you laugh but fall flat. Overall, one can predict what happens next and Param Sundari fails to make a mark on your heart.

Janhvi Kapoor and Siddharth Malhotra

★★☆☆☆

Param Sundari

Hindi (Theatres)

Director: Tushar Jalota

Cast: Janhvi Kapoor, Siddharth Malhotra

India submit 2030 CWG proposal

India on Friday officially submitted its proposal to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games, marking a significant step in its ambition to bring the multi-sport event back to the country after two decades, reports PTI from London.

The formal bid was submitted to the Commonwealth Sport (the Commonwealth Games Federation) by a delegation with representation from the Commonwealth Games Association of India and the Government of Gujarat.

The bid positions Ahmedabad as the host city for the Centenary edition of the Games, marking 100 years of the Commonwealth Games..

Gujarat Sports Minister Harsh Sanghavi said India's Games will be based on the ancient principle of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', meaning "the world is one family." offering unity and human connection.

Aspira for Welcome Cup

CHENNAI SELECTIONS

Deepesh Narredu-trained Aspira, to be ridden by Yash Narredu, is fancied to win the Welcome Cup, the feature event of the opening day of the Chennai races to be run over a sprint at the races on Saturday.

The first race starts at 2:30 pm.

1. Prince Regent Handicap - 1200M: Crown Angel 1, Everwin 2, Aviothic 3.
2. Mount Everest Handicap - 1200M: Romping Home 1, Gold Ride 2, Multiwave 3.
3. Hovercraft Handicap - 1400M: Red Falcon 1, Lochlomond 2, Alpha Domino 3.
4. Esquire Handicap - 1400M: Whirlwind 1, Cosette 2, Legacy 3.
5. Welcome Cup - 1200M: Aspira 1, Opus One 2, Golden Marina 3.
6. Red Rufus Handicap - 1200M: War Emblem 1, Brook Magic 2, Larado 4.
Day's best: Romping Home. **Jackpot:** 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6. **Treble:** 4, 5 & 6.

ATHLETICS DIAMOND LEAGUE FINALS

Ragged Neeraj is second best

Commanding Weber wins maiden title with 91.57m throw

ZURICH, PTI

Two-time Olympic medallist javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra finished runner-up in the Diamond League Finals for the third time in a row as Julian Weber of Germany lifted his maiden trophy with two 90m-plus throws in a commanding show here on Thursday.

Chopra was lying third till the fifth round following his opening throw of 84.35m before his final effort of 85.01m took him to the second spot, overtaking 2012 London Olympics gold winner Keshorn Walcott of Trinidad and Tobago who ended third with 84.95m.

Weber achieved a season world leading throw of 91.57m, his personal best, in his second attempt. He began with 91.37m effort, and after that it was a one-man show in the seven-man field.

None of Weber's rivals could even come near his mark, as his best effort of the day was over 6m more than that of Chopra. The German had a foul, 83.66m, 86.45m and 88.66m after his second throw.

Clearly, Chopra was not at his best in the season's Diamond League grand finale. He had three legal throws out of the six attempts.

Known for his consistency in producing 88m-plus throws, it was a rare instance of the 27-year-old Indian star just being able to touch the 85m mark.

He was hoping to regain the trophy he had won in 2022, but ended up finishing second for the third time after 2023 and 2024.

Defending champion Anderson Peters of Grenada was fourth with 82.06m.

Chopra was not his usual self as he began with 84.35m and then followed it up with 82m and a foul. He was at third spot at the halfway stage, and he fouled his fourth and fifth attempts before coming up with a 85.01m effort in his last throw.

Weber's effort was also his third 90m-plus throw of the season as well as his career. He had breached the coveted 90m mark with a 91.06m throw while winning the Doha DL title on May 16.

Chopra breached the 90m mark for the first time in Doha with a throw of 90.23m but finished second behind Weber.

India's Neeraj Chopra finished second in the men's javelin throw event at the Diamond League Finals in Zurich on Thursday. REUTERS

My timing, run-up was not good: Neeraj

Indian javelin throw star Neeraj Chopra acknowledged that his timing was off in the Diamond League Finals but is hopeful of hitting his strides at the World Championships next month in Tokyo, where he is the defending champion.

"The timing was not so good today (Thursday), run-up was not so good. There is something I didn't find today, but I still have three weeks for the World Championships, and I will try my best," Chopra said after the event on Thursday.

The Tokyo Olympic gold medallist had crossed 90m for the first time earlier this year at the Doha Diamond League, but has on numerous occasions said he needs to improve his technique to hit the mark consistently.

"This was not too bad. But we are getting very close to the World Championships, so I still need to throw a little bit farther. There were a few things that went well, but still, there were the things which did not go that well," Chopra said.

Rybakina too good for Raducanu

Champ Sinner turns up the heat; Alcaraz dazzles

us open

NEW YORK, AFP

Former Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina demolished Britain's Emma Raducanu to reach the fourth round of the US Open for the first time on Friday.

The Moscow-born ninth seed from Kazakhstan, whose previous best result in New York was a pair of third round appearances, overpowered Raducanu to win 6-1, 6-2 in one hour two minutes.

The unseeded Raducanu, the 2021 US Open champion, had looked in confident form en route to Friday's clash with Rybakina on the Louis Armstrong Stadium showcourt.

But the 22-year-old was in trouble from the outset against Rybakina, the Kazakh breaking her serve right away to seize the early advantage and then romp home in style.

Carlos Alcaraz coasted into the last 16 on Friday with a straight-sets win despite sparking fitness concerns as he received treatment for a knee issue. Alcaraz beat Italian 32nd seed Luciano Darderi 6-2, 6-4, 6-0 and will face Frenchman Arthur Rinderknech in the next round.

Jannik Sinner kept his bid to win back-to-back US Open titles firmly on track with an emphatic second-round demolition of Australia's Alexei Popyrin on Thursday.

The Italian World No. 1 needed just two hours and one minute to dispatch Popyrin 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.

Three-time Grand Slam runner-up Zverev eased past World No. 60 Fearnley 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 to book a date with Canadian 25th seed Felix Auger-Aliassime or Russia's Roman Safiullin.

Second round results (prefix denotes seeding): Men: 1-Jannik Sinner (Ita) bt Alexei Popyrin (Aus) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; 27-Denis Shapovalov (Can) bt Valentin Royer (Fra) 7-6 (8/6), 3-6, 7-6 (7/4), 6-3; 3-Alexander Zverev (Ger) bt Jacob Fearnley (GBR) 6-4, 6-4, 6-4; 23-Alexander Bublik (Kaz) bt Tristan Schoolkate (Aus) 6-3, 6-3, 6-3; 14-Tommy Paul (USA) bt Nuno Borges (Por) 7-6 (8/6), 6-3, 5-7, 5-7, 7-5; 10-Lorenzo Musetti (Ita) bt David Goffin (Bel) 6-4, 6-0, 6-2; 14-Tommy Paul (USA) bt Nuno Borges (Por) 7-6 (8/6), 6-3, 5-7, 5-7, 7-5. **Women:** 11-Karolina Muchova (Cze) bt Sorana Cirstea (Rom) 7-6 (7/0), 6-7 (3/7), 6-4; 15-Daria Kasatkina (Aus) bt Kamilla Rakhimova (Rus) 6-2, 4-6, 7-5; 23-Naomi Osaka (Jpn) bt Hailey Baptiste (USA) 6-3, 6-1; 3-Coco Gauff (USA) bt Donna Vekic (Cro) 7-6 (7/5), 6-2; 2-Iga Swiatek (Pol) bt Suzan Lamens (Ned) 6-1, 4-6, 6-4; 13-Ekaterina Alexandrova (Rus) bt Wang Xinyu (CHN) 6-2, 6-2.

Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan celebrates after defeating Emma Raducanu of Great Britain in the third round on Friday. AFP

Olympic champs Lyles, Alfred script statement victories

Noah Lyles

ZURICH, REUTERS: Olympic champions Noah Lyles and Julien Alfred stormed to statement victories in the Diamond League Final on Thursday, two weeks before the World Championships in Tokyo.

American Lyles became the first track athlete to win six Diamond League Final titles by beating Letsile Tebogo of Botswana in the 200 metres, and St Lucia's Alfred put injury concerns behind her with a dominant win in the women's 100m.

Lyles, three-times world 200m champion, trailed Tebogo coming off the corner before reeling in his rival to cross the line in 19.74 and win by 0.02 seconds.

"Six in a row, the most in track!," Lyles said. "It is pretty nice to have that. I saw Letsile lean on the finish line and I leaned on the finish line but I knew I won."

American Brittany Brown won the women's 200m in a season's best 22.13, while Asher-Smith took second (22.18), and Marie-Josee Ta Lou-Smith, who was disqualified from the 100 for a false start, finished third.

Norwegian Karsten Warholm, three-times world champion, pulled away to win the men's 400m hurdles in a meet record 46.70, while double world champion Femke Bol of the Netherlands also broke the Zurich record to triumph in the women's 400m hurdles in 52.18. Niels Laros pulled away over the final 100m to easily win the men's 1,500.

Cash prize hiked for State athletes

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced an increase in cash prize money given to Karnataka athletes winning medals at the National Games.

The announcement came at an event organised to celebrate the National Sports Day (a day earlier than the scheduled day of August 29) and a cash award ceremony at the Yavanika Centre here on late Thursday evening.

"We have increased the prize money to Rs 7 lakh for gold, Rs 5 lakh for silver and Rs 3 lakh for bronze medallists," he said.

This is an increment of Rs 2 lakh for each medal.

"In 2015, when I was the Chief Minister (first term), I had increased the prize money for gold, silver and bronze medalists to Rs 5, 3 and 2 lakh respectively. After a decade, the cash prize money is being increased to further encourage the athletes," he remarked.

In all there were 124 medal-winning athletes at various events -- including 34 gold, 18 silver and 28 bronze medals -- at the 38th National Games

He said that the government is providing additional incentives to Karnataka athletes to win more medals in the Olympics, Commonwealth and Asian Games. Assistance is being provided for training. Opportunities are also being provided for employment.

CM Siddaramaiah at the launch of National Sports Day celebrations at Yavanika in Bengaluru. KOA President K Govindraj (left) is also seen. Due to CM's prior engagements, Sports Day was marked a day earlier on Thursday. DH PHOTO/ BK JANARDHAN

PSG get daunting CL draw

MONACO, AP: Paris Saint-Germain were handed a tough start to the defence of its Champions League title when the draw was made Thursday with no opponent from any of the lower-ranked nations.

PSG were drawn against Bayern Munich and Barcelona from the pot of top-ranked teams, while Tottenham came from the pot of third-seeded teams in a repeat of their tight Super Cup game two weeks ago. And the French champion was paired with arguably the two toughest opponents from the lowest-ranked teams: Newcastle and Athletic Bilbao.

Bayer Leverkusen, Atalanta and Portuguese champion Sporting Lisbon complete the title holder's slate of eight games in the 36-team league phase.

Reunions

Manchester City will travel north of the Arctic Circle to face Bodo/Glimt of Norway, and host former fan favorite Kevin De Bruyne with his new club Napoli.

Inter Milan will host two Premier League teams Liverpool and Arsenal.

SBI — STATE BANK OF INDIA
ITSS Department, Local Head Office
65-St. Marks Road- Bangalore – 560001

CALLING FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR EMPANELMENT OF VENDORS FOR UNDERTAKING ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT OF IT ASSETS IN BRANCHES/OFFICES IN BENGALURU CIRCLE (KARNATAKA STATE)

State Bank of India, LHO Bangalore has floated tender for empanelment of Vendors for undertaking hardware AMC work for IT Assets deployed at Branches/offices of the Bank in the State of Karnataka for three years from 01.10.2025 to 30.09.2028. Detailed RFP uploaded in Bank's website **https://bank.sbi** ->SBI In the News ->Procurement News-> which can be downloaded **from 01.09.2025 to 15.09.2025 up to 5.00 P.M.** Vendors fulfilling the eligibility criteria can submit RFP proposals, as per the terms, to the undersigned, at the above-mentioned address **by 5.00 P.M. on or before 18.09.2025.**

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER (ITSS)

Government of Karnataka
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department,
Mandya Division, Mandya, Phone: 08232-222363,
email:eerwsmdy@gmail.com
No:EE/RDW&SD/MDY/PWM/2025-26/1177
Dated:28-08-2025.

Short Term Tender Notification NO-07/2025-26
(Two Cover System)

On behalf of the Governor of karnataka, The Executive Engineer, RDW&SD, Mandya invites tenders from eligible Manufacturer's/Authorised dealers for the installation of the machinery for the SWM units constructed for Plastic waste Management activities in Mandya District under SBM(G). Last Date & Time for Receipt of Bids:-08-09-2025 Time: 05:00 PM, Pre-Bid Meeting Date:-03-09-2025 Time: 11:00 AM (Place: o/o EE, RDWSD, Mandya), Date & Time of Technical Bid Opening :-09-09-2025 Time: 05:05 PM, Date & Time of Financial Bid Opening:-12-09-2025 Time:11:00 AM. More details can be obtained through KPPP portal of Govt of Karnataka www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in or from this office during working hours. Phone No: 08232-222363.

Sd/-Executive Engineer, R.D.W&S D, Mandya

ವಾಸಾಸಂ೫/ಸನಿ–ಮಂ/ಕೆವಿಸ್ಎಂಪಿ&ಎ/393/2025–26

HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA, BENGALURU-01
HCC No.16/2024 **Date: 28.08.2025**
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender is called by the High Court of Karnataka, Bengaluru for **"AMC of 120 Nos. of different KVA UPS installed in the High Court of Karnataka, Bengaluru, Benches at Dharwad and Kalaburagi and in the District and Taluka Courts in the State"** through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal of Centre for e-Governance, Bengaluru.

The last date to upload the tender is fixed as **12.09.2025 at 4:00 p.m.** For more details visit **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/searchTender/live** website.

Sd/-
(N.G.Dinesh)
Registrar (Computers) and
Tender Inviting Authority,
High Court of Karnataka, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/2521/MAA/25–26

Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Tiptur
Tumakuru Dist-572201, E-mail: apmctiptur@gmail.com, apmctiptur@rediffmail.com, Telephone: (Office) 08134-251046, (Chairmen) 08134-253018
No:AMD/APMC/TTR/DEV/2025-26/954, Dated:25-08-2025
Brief E-tender Publication

Construction of New Administrative Building in Main Market Yard, A.P.M.C. Tiptur, under Annual Auction Plan for the year 2024-25 (Tender amount Rs.396.56 lakhs) has been invited for e-tender through Indent No:-APMC/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT643 under "KW-4" in the Karnataka Government portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. For this work an EMD of Rs.5,94,850-00 has been fixed and eligible contractors can submit the tender for the said work within 4:00 pm on 30-09-2025. More information can be obtained on the above portal or from the Secretary during office hours. Any corrections will be communicated only through the e-portal.

Sd/-S.B.Nyamagouda) SecretaryA.P.M.C.Tiptur
Sd/-(Dr.V.Rajanna) Administrator,.P.M.C.Tiptur

Don't Miss Tomorrow's DH on Sunday
DH DECCAN HERALD

BIG PICTURE — The everyday unicorns of small-town India.
BOOKS — Read the review of Arundhati Roy's much-anticipated memoir.
ART & PURSUITS — Fireflies are not just beautiful but are also crucial to the ecosystem.
FOOD & DRINK — New Nordic cuisine is reshaping global gastronomy.
TRAVEL — Dive into the hidden world of Vietnam's war-torn past.
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No.MSIL/CIPD/PQ/001/2025-26 Date:30.08.2025

PRE-QUALIFICATION BID NOTIFICATION

Mysore Sales International Limited, a premier Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking involved in marketing and supplying of various products and services, invites **"Applications for Pre-qualification Bid-(PQ), through e-procurement platform from suppliers/ manufacturers involved in supply of Sports Equipments and Tool Kits"** under the brand names owned by MSIL. The PQ documents are available at e-procurement website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** address from **30.08.2025 to 15.09.2025 up to 3.00 pm**

Sd/- Director (Marketing)

ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ
ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ – 571107, ದೂ: 08223–273036
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: itstaff_ulb_periyapatna@yahoo.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಪಿಪುಸ/ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕಶಾಖೆ/ಜೆಇ/ಟೆಂಡರ್–12/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29.08.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ವಿಪತ್ತು ಉಪಶಮನ ನಿಧಿ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪುರಸಭೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಬೆಟ್ಟದಪುರ ರಸ್ತೆಯಿಂದ ಅರಸಿನಕೆರೆಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವ ರಾಜಕಾಲುವೆಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಸ್ಟಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ (ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ–3) ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿಯಂತೆ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ತಮಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಂಡು ನಂತರ ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸದರಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು.
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ವಿವರ : 1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.09.2025ರ ಸಂಜೆ 04.00 ಗಂಟೆ. 2)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ (ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್) ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.09.2025ರ ಸಂಜೆ 04.00 ಗಂಟೆ.**

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
1	26/OW/WORK_INDENT42194/CALL-2	1,00,00,000.00	84,67,355.72	1,69,347.00

ಸೂಚನೆ: ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ನೀಡುವ ಇತರೆ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳಿಗೆ ಬದ್ಧರಾಗಿರತಕ್ಕದ್ದು ಮತ್ತು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಶಾಖೆಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– (ಪ್ರಕಾಶ್ ಸಿಂಗ್) ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಪುರಸಭೆ, ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ
ಸಹಿ/– (ಸುವರ್ಣ) ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಪುರಸಭೆ ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ
ಸಹಿ/– (ಅಬ್ದುಲ್ ಅರ್ಶದ್) ಸ್ಥಾಯಿ ಸಮಿತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಪುರಸಭೆ, ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ
ಸಹಿ/– (ಕೆ. ಮುತ್ತಪ್ಪ) ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಪುರಸಭೆ, ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ

DIPR/MYS/875/SA/2025-26

ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಆನೇಕಲ್
ಆನೇಕಲ್ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ – 562106. ಫೋನ್ : 080–27859225, ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ : 080–27830092, Email :- itstaff_ulb_anekal@yahoo.co.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಪು.ಕಾ.ಆ/ಆ.ಶಾ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/06/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29.08.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಆನೇಕಲ್ ಪುರಸಭೆಯ 2024–25 ಮತ್ತು 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿಯಡಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿದಾರರು/ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ಬಿಡ್‌ದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸ್ಟಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್‌ನ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಡೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಶಾಖೆಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಮತ್ತು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಮಾನದಂಡಗಳ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳ ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಶಸ್ವಿ ಬಿಡ್ಡುದಾರರನ್ನು ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ವಿವರ	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) (2.0%)
1	ಆನೇಕಲ್ ಪುರಸಭಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ದೊಡ್ಡಕೆರೆ ಬಳಿ ಇರುವ 3.3 ಎಂ.ಎಲ್.ಡಿ ಹಾಲ್ದೇನಹಳ್ಳಿ ಕೆರೆ ಬಳಿ ಇರುವ 3.1 ಎಂ.ಎಲ್.ಡಿ ಎಸ್.ಟಿ.ಪಿ ಘಟಕಗಳು 2 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಸೆಪ್ಟಿಕ್ ಟ್ಯಾಂಕ್, 3 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ರೈಸಿಂಗ್ ಮೇನ್, 3 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ವೆಟ್‌ವೆಲ್, 3 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಡೀಸೆಲ್ ಜನರೇಟರ್ ರೂಂ ಮತ್ತು ಸೇವೇಜ್ ಪಂಪ್‌ಸೆಟ್‌ಗಳ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಚರಣೆ.	DMA/2025-26/SE6048	68.49	136920/–
2	ಆನೇಕಲ್ ಪುರಸಭಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗೆ 16 ಕ್ಯೂಮೀ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಕಾಂಪಾಕ್ಟರ್ ವಾಹನ ಖರೀದಿಸಲು.	DMA/2025-26/IND5300	53.00	106000/–
3	ಆನೇಕಲ್ ಪುರಸಭೆಗೆ ಜೆ.ಸಿ.ಬಿ. ವಾಹನವನ್ನು ಖರೀದಿಸುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ.	DMA/2025-26/IND5299	38.30	76600/–

ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ : (1) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09/09/2025** ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. (2) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಪುರಸಭೆ ಆನೇಕಲ್ ವಾಸಾಸಂ೫/ವಾ.ಪ್ರ/2534/2025–26 ಸಹಿ/– ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಪುರಸಭೆ ಆನೇಕಲ್ ಸಹಿ/– ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಪುರಸಭೆ ಆನೇಕಲ್

Sairaj Pardeshi

Indian lifters clinch seven medals

AHMEDABAD, PTI: Indian weightlifters bagged a rich haul of seven medals, including a silver and a bronze in the senior category, with rising star Sairaj Pardeshi grabbing the spotlight with a record-breaking gold on the fifth day of the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships here on Friday.

Reigning National Games champion Dilbag Singh settled for silver in the men's 94kg event with a total lift of 342kg (153kg snatch + 189kg clean and jerk).

The gold went to Malaysia's Mohammad Syahmi Bin Nor Ghazali, who edged past Dilbag with 343kg (150kg+193kg), while Australia's Oliver Saxton took bronze with 336kg (150kg+186kg).

The talented Vanshita Verma took bronze in the senior women's 86kg division, lifting 222kg (95kg+127kg). Australia's Eileen Cikamatana bagged gold with 255kg (110kg+145kg), followed by New Zealand's Litia Nacagilevu, who managed 235kg (107kg+128kg) for a silver.

The day, however, belonged to 18-year-old Pardeshi, who stamped his authority in the men's 88kg junior category. The youngster totalled 348kg (157kg+191kg).

Dakshin Dare: Adith-Harish pair jumps into lead

BENGALURU, DHNS: Adith KC and Harish KN navigated the treacherous terrain with elan to shoot into lead on Day 2 of the Motorsport Inc fmsci 14th Dakshin Dare rally at the dirt tracks, about 30km from Anantapur, on Friday.

"We had a smooth run today and our target was to bring the car home safely and gain some time in a few of our favourite sections," said Adith, a double INRC champion in his class, who was ably assisted by Harish KN, who is fast gaining a name for his co-driver role.

Provisional Unaudited results (Overall after leg 2): Adith KC/ Harish KN (Team Vamcy Merla Motorsports) (03hours, 55minuts, 18seconds) 1; Vinod Singh/ Shailendra Singh (Team Ashva) (03:55:33) 2; Aieman Ahmed/ Sagar M (Team VM Motorsports) (03:57:16) 3. **Class 2: Group T1**: Adith KC/ Harish KN, 1; Aieman Ahmed/ Sagar M, 2; Sidharth Santosh/ Vybhav Mukund Rao (Privateer), 3. **Class 10: Group T2**: Vinod Singh/ Shailendra Singh (Team Ashva) (03:55:33) 1; Deepak Sachyadeva/ Rajit Singh (Team Ashva) (04:03.47) 2. **Ladies Class**: Phoebe Nongrum/ Venu Ramesh Kumar (Team VM Motorsports) (03:59:35). **Class 5: Group T1**: Vamcy Merla/ Ashwin Naik (Team VM Motorsports) (04:04:18). **Class 8: Group T2**: Akhil Jain/ Akhil Dhaundiyal (Team Ashva) (04:11:14). **Class 11: Group T2**: Archit Jindal/ Aashish Bhaskar (Team Ashva) (04:13:55).

◆ ON TV ◆

TENNIS

US Open: Third round **(8:30 pm)**. **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

BADMINTON

World C'ships: Semifinal **(12:30 pm)**. **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network.**

HOCKEY

Asia Cup: Bangladesh vs Chinese Taipei **(3 pm)**, Korea vs Malaysia **(5 pm)**. **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network.**

FOOTBALL

EPL: Chelsea vs Fulham **(5:00 pm)**, Manchester United vs Burnely, Sunderland vs Brentford, Tottenham vs Bournemouth, Wolves vs Everton **(all 7:30 pm)**, Leeds vs Newcastle **(10:00 pm)**. **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

La Liga: Deportivo Alaves vs Getafe **(8:30 pm)**, Real Oviedo vs Real Sociedad **(10:30 pm)**, Girona vs Sevilla **(11 pm)**. **LIVE** on **FanCode.**

MOTORSPORT

Formula 1: Dutch GP **(practice 3: 3:00 pm; qualifying: 6:30 pm)**. **LIVE** on **FanCode, F1 TVPro.**

HOCKEY ASIA CUP

Rusty Indians struggle past China

Harmanpreet tricks in hosts' scrappy 4-3 victory

HITA PRAKASH
RAJGIR, DHNS

Was it because of the first-match jitters? Or was it for their opponents, China, living up to their "tricky" image? Whatever be the reason, tournament's top-ranked India's narrow 4-3 win over the world No. 23 China in the opener of the Asia Cup here on Friday once again exposed everything the hosts are struggling with in the last few months.

While an attempt was saved by the Chinese goalkeeper in the very first minute, another field goal was overruled as void as India got off on a wrong note in the early minutes of the first quarter, it was the third quarter that ripped open the team's long-standing defensive wounds. In between, captain Harmanpreet Singh's hat-trick (20th, 33rd, 47th) and his dragflick counterpart Jugraj Singh's (18th) one goal came in handy for the home side to escape with a win that gave them three points.

Though there were multiple field goal attempts, all four of the Indian goals came through penalty corners. For the visiting neighbours, DU Shihao (12th) got their scoreboard ticking before Benhai Chen (35th) and Jieshng Gao (42nd) netted the other two goals.

The quick-footed Chinese were expected to tactically trouble and test Craig Fulton's men. Starting off by pressing deep into the the 25-yard line and later capitalising on counter-attacks, the Chongcong Chen-led side remained a step ahead for a large part of the first 17 minutes when they held a 1-0 lead.

With Harmanpreet having missed the target twice already, Jugraj was called in to take the strike and he struck hard to make it 1-1 in 18th. It was only in the second quarter, when the skipper finally found the back of the net, did India breathe a sigh of relief. The 29-year-old's second strike put India ahead by 3-1, just three minutes after the halfway mark.

However, that cushion was short-lived as China switched on the aggression. Multiple Indian slip-ups, including Harmanpreet missing a penalty stroke and the poor ball trapping, hurt them in more ways than one.

With the scores tied at 3-3, the mistakes coming would have proven to be too costly if not for Harmanpreet converting the third of the three consecutive penalty corners in the 47th minute.

Captain Harmanpreet Singh scored a hat-trick as India edged China 4-3 in their Asia Cup opener in Rajgir, Bihar, on Friday. PTI

Malaysia win

The second best ranked team Malaysia, the world No. 12, also took time to get going before scoring a 4-1 win over Bangladesh, in the first match of the 10-day event.

The other Pool B tie saw Korea trounce Chinese Taipei 7-0 while the Pool A encounter between Japan and Kazakhstan ended with the former walking away with a 7-0 victory.

Results: Pool A: India: 4 (Harmanpreet Singh 20th, 33rd, 47th, Jugraj Singh 18th) bt China: 3 (DU Shihao 12th, Benhai Chen 35th, Jieshng Gao 42nd); Japan: 7 (Kosei Kawabe 1st, Naru Kimura 5th, Koji Yamasaki 13th, 36th, Ken Nagayoshi 48th, Shota Yamada 48th, Ryosuke Shinohara 54th) bt Kazakhstan: 0.

Pool B: Malaysia: 4 (Ashran Hamsani 25th, Akhimullah Anuar 36th, Muhajir Abdul Rauf 48th, Syed Cholan 54th) bt Bangladesh: (Ashraful Islam 16th); Korea: 7 (Dain Son 17th, 29th, 58th, Jihun Yang 27th, 50th, Seyong Oh 53rd, Yoonho Kong 54th) bt Chinese Taipei: 0.

Kshitij Naveed Kaul (centre) poses with his spoils.

Kshitij pulls off a heist with late flourish

KOLAR, DHNS: Delhi's Kshitij Naveed Kaul snatched victory with an incredible late flourish at the Kolar Open which concluded at the Zion Hills Golf County.

Kshitij (74-69-71-65), who was overnight fifth and six shots off the lead, staged an unbelievable comeback on the fourth day with a tournament low of seven-under 65 highlighted by three birdies and an eagle on the last four holes that took his total to nine-under 279 and gave him a two-shot victory on the most windy day of the week.

It was 24-year-old's fifth professional win. Kshitij's winning cheque of Rs 15 lakh pushed him up five spots to eighth position on the PGTI Order of Merit with his season's earnings moving to Rs 48,00,847.

Shaurya Bhattacharya (70-72-66-73), another Delhi-based professional and overnight leader by three shots, posted a final round of 73 to finish runner-up at seven-under 281.

Leading scores (after 72 holes): 279: Kshitij Naveed Kaul (74, 69, 71, 65); 281: Shaurya Bhattacharya (70, 72, 66, 73); 284: Dhruv Sheoran (72, 69, 76, 67); 285: Honey Baisoya (68, 75, 70, 72), Udayan Mane (73, 67, 71, 74)

Goal is to take international hockey to different states: Tirkey

HITA PRAKASH
RAJGIR, DHNS

After the women's Asian Champions Trophy in November 2024, the hockey stadium in Rajgir, Bihar is hosting men's Asia Cup which commenced on Friday.

Apart from these two big ticket events, the first leg of the FIH Pro League was held in Bhubaneswar in February and the junior men's World Cup is scheduled to be organised in Chennai in December.

Speaking to *DH* prior to the biennial continental event, former player and Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey said that one of the top priorities of the federation was to bring as many international tournaments to the country to spread the sport at various hubs.

DILIP TIRKEY
HI President

"There is a tradition of hockey in the neighbouring states of Odisha and Jharkhand. However, it isn't the same in Bihar. Hopefully, Asia Cup will change that.

The 47-year-old Olympian from Odisha, and India's highest capped (412 matches) player, shared his views about the new venue, the significance of Asia Cup and the footprint HI hopes it will leave behind.

Your expectations from the tournament?

This is not only an important and significant event for the national team but also for Hockey India. One of the main goals of HI is to popularise the sport. For this to happen, we want to take international events to various venues in different states. So kids of today get inspired and we find future players from these regions which have huge potential.

Could you explain that a little more?

Unless people watch live sport, how will the interest develop? There is a tradition for hockey in the neighbouring states of Odisha and Jharkhand where the game is played extensively especially in the country side and rural areas. However, it isn't the same in Bihar. This, hopefully, will change that with the government investing more and parents allowing their children to take up hockey.

Are there other big events coming to India?

Let's see, we can hopefully bring the junior or senior women's World Cups to India in the future as well. We want to regularly host international events in India. That's for sure.

Decision to field the entire core team...

Keeping in mind that we are the hosts and that the event is a World Cup qualifier, the selectors along with the coach have picked the best team after closely monitoring each of their performances during the friendlies against Australia. I'm sure, the team is well-prepared to put up a good show.

Nabi hands North control; Central in driver's seat

BENGALURU, DHNS: Arshdeep Singh **(in pic)** and Harshit Rana produced fiery spells while Aquib Nabi bagged a five-wicket haul, including a hat-trick, as North Zone bowled East Zone out for just 230 on the second day of the Duleep Trophy quarterfinals here on Friday.

Wicketkeeper-batter Kanhaiya Wadhawan (76) made a fluent fifty as North, overnight 308/6, reached 405 all out and now lead by 183 runs after a stutter from East Zone.

Internationals Arshdeep and Rana showcased their game readiness with lively spells spread across three sessions.

Arshdeep showed no signs of discomfort while bowling 17 overs on the day.

On the other hand, Rana, whose last first-class assignment was against the England Lions, operated with a slew of heavy balls, which fetched him the wickets of Utkarsh Singh (38) and Sridam Paul (7).

Utkarsh might be a tad disappointed after the umpire adjudged him caught behind off a lifter down the leg side.

Brief scores: North Zone: (O/n: 308/6): 405 all out in 75.2 overs (Shubham Khajuria 26, Ankit Kumar 30, Yash Dhull 39, Ayush Badoni 63, Nishant Sindhu 47, Kanhaiya Wadhawan 42 n.o., Mayank Dagar 28, Auqib Nabi 44; Manishi 6-111, Suraj Sindhu Jaiswal 2-44) vs East Zone: 230 all out in 56.1 overs (Utkarsh Singh 38, Riyan Parag 39, Virat Singh 69,Kumar Kushagra 29; Auqib Nabi 5-28, Harshit Rana 2-56).
Central Zone: (O/n: 432/2): 532/4 dec in 102 overs (Aryan Juyal 60, Danish Malewar 203, Rajat Patidar 125, Yash Rathod 87 n.o., Shubham Sharma 34) vs North East Zone: 168/7 in 65 overs (Karnajit Yumnam 48, Ashish Thapa 35, Ankur Malik 31 n.o.; Aditya Thakare 3-23, Harsh Dubey 2-19).

Amandeep Drall poses with her bounty after winning the 12th Leg of WPGT at Clover Greens in Hosur on Friday.

Amandeep holds off Ananya to win 12th leg

BENGALURU, DHNS: Amandeep Drall posted her second victory of the season en route to claiming the 12th leg of the WGAI tour at Clover Greens on Friday.

With the win, the veteran became the third player to win more than once this year. Vani Kapoor (four times) and Sneha Singh (twice) have been the other multiple winners.

Amandeep, who played at the Hills Open in Sweden before rushing to India in time for the event in Hosur, held her nerves in the tense closing stages for an aggregate of two-under 214 for three days.

The experienced golfer, who carded one-under 71 on Friday's final day, overcame young Ananya Garg, who held a one-shot lead with two holes to go.

Leading scores (after 54 holes): **214:** Amandeep Drall (75, 68, 71); **216:** Ananya Garg (72, 71, 73); **218:** Anvitha Narender (75, 71, 72), Ridhima Dilawari (77, 68, 73).

Indian shooters rake in the moolah

SHYMKENT (KAZAKHSTAN), PTI

Young pistol marksman Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu gave himself a belated birthday present by winning the 25m centre fire event, while former world champion Ankur Mittal netted the double trap gold as India made merry in non-Olympic disciplines at the Asian Shooting Championships, here on Friday.

India also made a clean sweep in women's double trap with Anushka Bhati (93), Pranil Ingle (89) and Hafiz Contractor (87) finishing on the podium. The trio also cornered the team gold with an aggregate of 269.

Sandhu, who turned 23 on August 13, beat back the challenge from veteran country-mate Gurpreet Singh, a Korean and an Iranian shooter to win the biggest medal of his career with a score of 583 (Precision 289, Rapid 294). This was Sandhu's first senior medal at the international level after winning a bronze and a silver in the junior world cup in 2018 and 2022 respectively.

Army stalwart Gurpreet Singh (579) finished fourth, while Korea's Jaekyoon Lee (580) and Iran's Javad Foroughi (579) took silver and bronze respectively.

India also won the team gold in the event with Gurpreet coming up with a commanding performance for the second day in a row.

Juniors excel

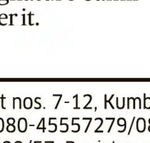
India's Prachi Gaikwad took the junior women's 50m rifle prone silver with a score of 616.6. The gold was won by South Korea's Sehee Oh (618.6), while the bronze went to Kazakhstan's Sofya Malkina (616.3).

The trio of Prachi (616.6), Anushka Thokur (607.6) and Tejal Nathawat (599.2) took the team bronze with an aggregate of 1823.4.

Ankur Mittal won the double trap gold at the Asian Shooting Championships on Friday. FILE PHOTO

Gurpreet stars as India edge Tajikistan

HISOR (TAJIKISTAN), PTI: Gurpreet Singh Sandhu **(in pic)** stood tall under the bar with a series of stunning saves, including a spot-kick, as India, under new coach Khalid Jamil, beat higher-ranked Tajikistan 2-1 in their opening match of the CAFA Nations Cup football tournament on Friday.



World No. 133 India scored through defenders Anwar Ali (5th) and Sandesh Jhingan (13th) and then doggedly defended against the 106th-ranked hosts for the remaining 75 minutes.

Jamil, in his first match as India head coach, couldn't have asked for a better result and credit should go to skipper Gurpreet, who returned to the starting XI after being sidelined under former coach Manolo Marquez.

Lack of quality in the attacking third is still a big problem but on Friday, centre-backs Anwar and Jhingan took it upon themselves to end India's scoring draught that had stretched to three international games within the first 15 minutes.

The shape that the team kept in both attack and defence had signature Jamil written all over it.

Wardani wears out Sindhu

Indian falls to Indonesian in quarterfinals; Kapila-Crasto exit

PARIS, PTI

Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu's quest for a sixth World Championships medal ended on Friday after losing a hard-fought three-game quarterfinal thriller to Indonesia's Putri Kusuma Wardani.

Sindhu, the 2019 world champion and five-time medallist at the event, was eyeing a record sixth podium finish but faltered at the finishing line, losing 14-21, 21-13, 16-21 to ninth seed Wardani in a pulsating 64-minute contest.

Earlier in the day, the Indian mixed doubles pair of Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto bowed out after losing 15-21, 13-21 to World No. 4 Malaysians Chen Tang Jie and Toh Ee Wei, ending India's hopes of a maiden mixed doubles medal at the showpiece.

Sindhu, the 30-year-old from Hyderabad, had won her maiden medal in Guangzhou in 2013. She added another bronze in Copenhagen a year later to her tally, finished runner-up in Glasgow (2017) and Nanjing (2018), before scripting history with gold at Basel in 2019.

Indonesia's Putri Kusuma Wardani celebrates after defeating India's PV Sindhu in the quarterfinals of the BWF World Championships in Paris on Friday. AFP

Sindhu, the only Indian to win Olympic medals in consecutive Games — silver at Rio 2016 and bronze at Tokyo 2020 — has endured a difficult run since lifting the 2022 Commonwealth Games crown. The Singapore Open that year was her last notable title.

Injuries, a slide in rankings and frequent coaching changes have stifled her rhythm in the buildup to the Paris Olympics, where her dream of a third Olympic medal ended prematurely.

Training under Indonesian coach Muhammad Irwansyah, she has continued to search for consistency on the tour, but results have remained elusive.

Against Wardani, with whom she shared a 2-2 career record before the match, Sindhu struggled to close out the big points. The Indonesian, 23, showed composure in crunch moments to assure herself of a maiden Worlds medal.

Wardani was the sharper player in the opening game, using angles and smashes to put Sindhu under pressure. After the score was tied at 3-3, a flurry of errors from the Indian allowed the Indonesian to seize control, moving into the mid-game break 11-7.

Wardani extended her dominance to 18-9 as Sindhu repeatedly went wide and long, before pocketing the opener 21-14 when the Indian pushed one out with a broken string.

Sindhu roared back in the second game, tightening her net play and finding her range on the smashes. She won that game but lost the decider against the inspired Wardani.

Messi set for home farewell

BUENOS AIRES, AP: Lionel Messi (in pic) has not yet announced when he plans to retire, but he knows that next week's match against Venezuela could be his last one playing at home in a World Cup qualifier with Argentina's national team.

"It's going to be a very, very special match for me because it's the last qualifying match," the 38-year-old Messi said Wednesday night.

Argentina, with a spot already secured in next year's World Cup, will host Venezuela next Thursday at the Monumental Stadium in Buenos Aires for the penultimate round of South American qualifiers.

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DECCAN HERALD
Saturday, August 30, 2025

Wknd.

Monochrome ensembles grab attention without screaming for it

STYLE FILE P03

ADVERTORIAL & PROMOTIONAL LIFESTYLE FEATURE

ON THE ROAD TO ADVENTURE

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WEDDING WOWS!

PAGE 03

GIFTS WITH THAT FESTIVE TOUCH

PAGE 04

Show Buzz | Manasi Scott

'I know when I sing, I move the world...'

Self-taught singer-actor Manasi Scott is the only performer who was invited, with her band, to the Priyanka Chopra-Nick Jonas wedding, and she had Nick singing with her on stage in minutes. But then, this Mumbai-based singer always strikes a first - she had 179 back-to-back live concerts from her home during the lockdown in only 145 days, and is the only Indian artiste to have been featured on the cover of The Week.

With playback songs in Hindi and Tamil in her repertoire, and over 1.20 million fans following her on Facebook, Manasi Scott is busier than the proverbial bee – singing across genres including Sufi, folk, Bollywood, Punjabi, EDM, rock, retro, disco and more.

A national level basketball player, a fauji kid, Manasi has starred in movies including Jhootha hi Sahi (where she made her debut opposite John Abraham), Bhaag Johnny, Snehithiye and Raakilipattu, and has sung for the movie Pappu Can't Dance Saala (2011). She is busy configuring her video podcast and knitting social media to her immense popularity as she threads across a cross section of age groups in her growing fandom.

Shilpi Madan caught up with her for this chat.

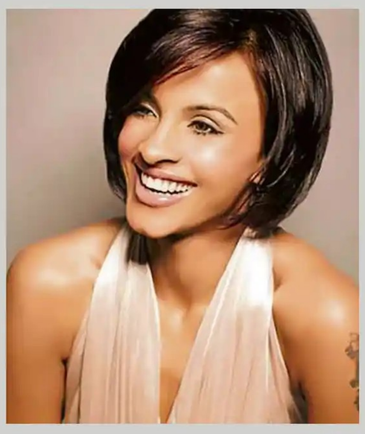
How has your journey been so far?
Interesting. A rollercoaster. Honestly, multiple journeys have happened. Which one are you talking about?

Your journey in the world of music?
This is the youngest I have ever felt, connecting with fans worldwide – those who have an attention span of a minute. It has been a fabulous ride so far. I have produced my own albums and videos, done successful world tours, worked with the biggest DJs internationally. Right now, I am navigating waters to make music be heard on social media.

An honest opinion...
We are celebrating mediocrity. Social media is making us lose talent, forget the magic of music because there is a greater premium being placed on being famous than on being good at your art.

What now?
Working on songs, Hindi and English. I am recording in a very raw format and have parallel projects running. I have always been a very visual artiste, focussing on videos, but honestly, audios stand the test of time. A song is a forever-commodity, it earns recognition for life.

> I have always been a very visual artiste, focussing on videos, but honestly, audios stand the test of time



What is your biggest currency?
Live shows.

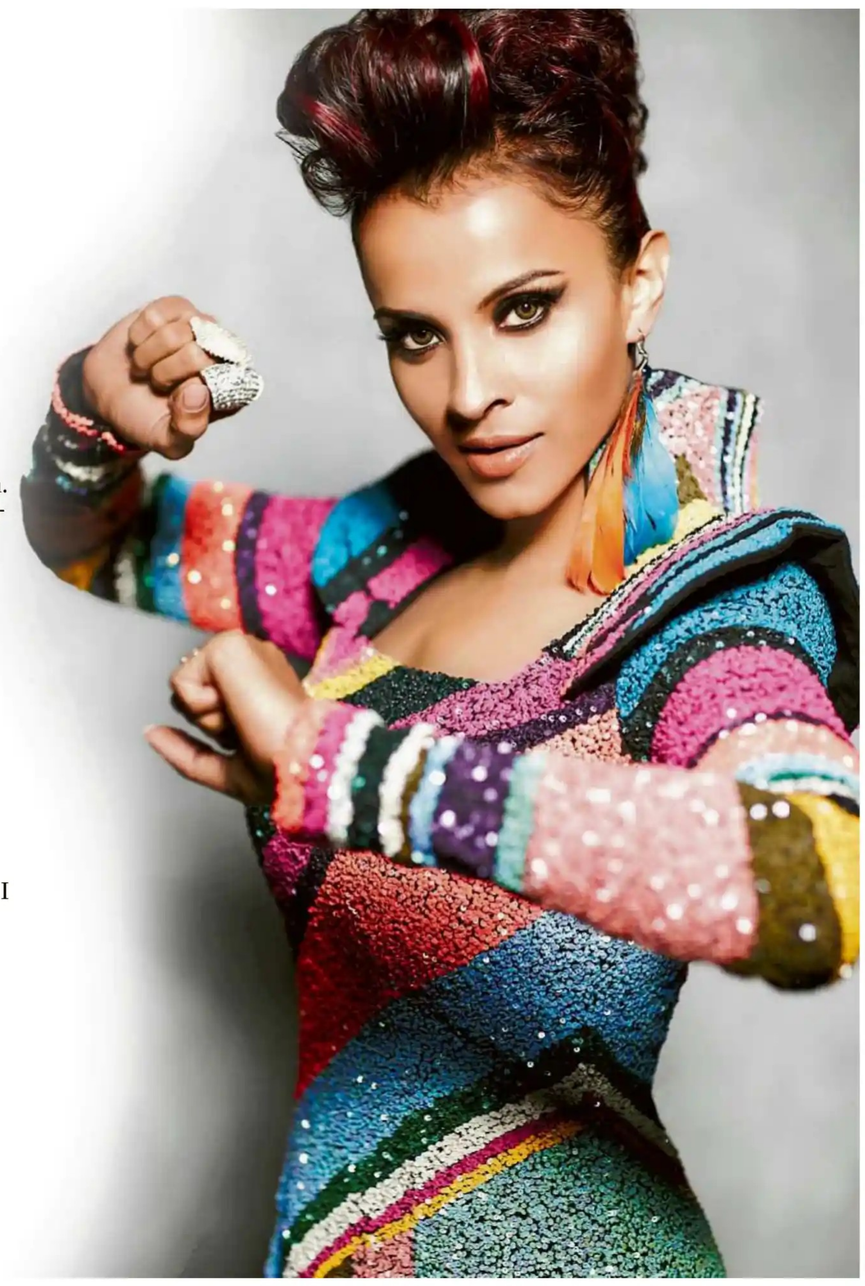
What does your Riyaz involve?
Spiritual breaths. Blowing the shankh. I can do this for 30 seconds now, building up my breath resilience. I believe everyone can sing - some like Adele, some like Sonu Nigam. It is about honouring your voice and your body. Respect your throat chakra.

A piece of advice...
Turn up for someone you care about. Show support, be in their corner - it means a lot.

A secret desire...
I want to make enough money to be able to buy a stage in any part of the world I choose, and simply sing aloud. I know when I sing, I move the world.

If not a singer, what would you have been?
A pilot.

What is your biggest learning in life?
Live in the present, the past doesn't matter. You must have no conversations with your past. Focus on today - you are a new version.



Travelling with your tiny tot

A holiday with a toddler is fun if you plan it well, says **Jayanthi Madhukar**

Travelling with a toddler may not sound fun but it can certainly be comfortable and yes, 'kind of' fun. Now, 'if you take a young child, it is all about the child', is true, but with good planning, you will both look forward for more such travels.

Selecting the destination
For the time being, avoid arduous treks and strenuous hikes - at least until your children can truly appreciate the outdoors. Instead, favour destinations that allow you to adopt a routine swiftly. On extended holidays, consider splitting your stay between two locations rather than attempting a whirlwind tour of daily disembarkations.

When selecting accommodation, prioritise proximity to essentials such as dining, shopping and medical facilities. A hotel with child-friendly amenities is ideal - pay close attention to reviews that specifically recommend such establishments.

Conveyance options
A road journey or flight lasting only a few hours is usually the most comfortable option when travelling with an infant or toddler. For longer journeys, adequate preparation is essential. Bring items to occupy your toddler - a beloved toy, a book or a screen - so they can tolerate extended periods of sitting.

Be ready to soothe them with tales, songs or any engaging distractions. Pack their preferred snacks and be liberal with your apologies to fellow passengers should your child disturb their comfort.

If you intend to hire a car at your destination, ensure the car seat accompanies you. Infants thrive on familiar routines - recognising and catering to their needs is paramount for seamless travel. In the event of air travel, ensure they have something distracting during take-off and landing to alleviate ear pressure. Request a bassinet in advance and carry the child's blankets for comfort. During the flight, mitigate engine noise exposure by using cotton wool or noise-cancelling headsets. If possible, schedule travel to coincide with your baby's customary sleep time.

Sleeping arrangements
A holiday ought to be restful for the entire family, and if you plan your day's outing around your child's nap schedule, you will increase the chances of a successful experience. Adult itineraries and schedules should take second place to the baby's routine, if not, you will be dragging with you a sleepy and cranky baby. Of course, every baby's sleep pattern is unique -tailor your plans accordingly.

Essential travel aids
Take your child's stroller, regardless of travel mode - most airlines do not impose charges for strollers. If you are planning an extended holiday, bringing a portable crib is advisable to ensure hygienic sleep arrangements. Should your child require a sound machine, include it in your luggage.

When it comes to wet wipes and hand sanitisers, it truly is a case of more is less, so stock up generously. Lastly, pack any medicines your child might need - be it for earaches, digestive upsets, fever, cold or cough.

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Banshankari: Sri Hari Kalyana Mantap, 30th Main, B.S.K. 3rd Stage, Near K.I.M.S. Hospital.
Bannerghatta: Billava Bhavana, No. 63, Opp. Meenakshi Temple.
R. R Nagar: Vasavi Mahal Kalyana Mantapa, Next To Reliance Digital,Ideal Homes I Phase.
Vijay Nagar: Five O Gallery 17th Cross, M.C. Road, Near Vijay Nagar Bus Stop.
Malleswaram: The Canara Union, No.42, 8th Main, Canara Union Road.
Koramangala: Apoorva International, #35A,Raheja Arcade, Opp Star Box, Bangalore -95
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DH DECCAN HERALD
Wknd. LONG RIDE

Carry all relevant bike-related documents. Ensure you keep someone back home informed about your whereabouts all the time

RIDE SAFE

WEEKEND LIFESTYLE FEATURE

FIT BIKE, PLEASANT RIDE

Your bike needs to be in top condition while embarking on a long ride. Check all cables and parts for wear and tear. Carry spares that you may need. You need to have your bike serviced and checked by a qualified engineer to ensure it can take the rough roads you will ride on. Pay special attention to the tyres.

DIET FOR BIKERS

Your stamina will be tested on a long ride. The food you consume is therefore critical. Ensure you get enough carbs and stay well-hydrated. Avoid unhygienic food. A long ride is not a good time to get adventurous with food – stay away from cuisines you are not familiar with or haven't tried before. Take advice from a qualified dietician.

On the road to adventure...

Roads challenge, destinations beckon and bikers get a fill of the thrill. **Swatee Jog** hits a trail to check out the biking scene

Getting set

It all begins with meticulous planning months in advance. You must decide on the route, study seasonal conditions and get the bikes serviced thoroughly. Essential gear includes riding jacket, gloves, helmet, knee guards and waterproof layers. Carrying a puncture repair kit, tyre inflator and basic tools is non-negotiable.

Safety first

Discipline is the key. Riders usually go in a line – with a lead rider aware of road conditions and a tail who can handle mechanical breakdowns. Communication devices ensure no one is left behind. Frequent breaks, every 60–90 minutes prevent fatigue, while covering isolated stretches before dark keeps risks minimal.

Meticulous planning

The mountains decide the calendar. Passes open mid-June, monsoons swell rivers by August, and snow can appear anytime. Fixing dates acceptable to all group members is crucial. You can rely on Google maps, YouTube research and tips from locals or experienced bikers. Marking back-up routes is always wise.

Luxury isn't a priority and comfort is the least important thing on the minds of bikers, but adequate rest and safety is crucial. Unlike earlier, today several options are available in accommodation that fulfils most criteria.

Fuel can make or break a trip. While highways have ample petrol pumps, remote areas demand carrying extra fuel cans. Most bikers map fuel stations in advance and top up whenever possible, especially in high-altitude deserts where pumps are scarce. Several Apps today help with this.

Eat right

Meals should be light, practical and energy-packed. Ready-to-eat packs, instant burners, homemade laddoos, dry fruits and energy bars are staples. While you should eat light and filling for the ride during the day, hot tea in freezing regions becomes a priceless comfort.

Biking is a way of life for travel geeks. Die-hard bikers are a tribe, a fraternity which is close-knit and very active. Biking is about testing endurance - of the bike and rider. They ride because the roads challenge and destinations beckon. From the snow-clad passes of Ladakh to the coastal stretches of Rameshwaram, long-distance bike trips in India are more than just journeys – they are tests of endurance, planning and passion. They are about discipline, teamwork, resilience and the joy of exploring. The biking season begins just as the monsoon starts tapering off around south India.

Jokes kept them warm...

What began in 2015 as a group of 30 riders soon transformed into a close-knit pack of seven – bound by discipline, trust and an unshakable love for the road. Ajay Pai, 45, owner of a chain of restaurants in Belagavi and his friends have since conquered some of India's toughest terrains, from Leh–Ladakh to Spiti, Chandratal and Delhi to Bhutan. Next month, they embark on a nine-day trip from Belagavi to Rameshwaram.

Each ride is planned three months in advance. Research comes from YouTube, Google and invaluable advice from those who've ridden the trails before.

Accommodation is simple – tents pegged near dhabas or budget hostels. Food is practical - ready-to-eats, homemade laddoos and energy bars.

Roles are clear – one manages documentation, another knows bike repairs, while Ajay himself handles food and stay arrangements. Safety is paramount - they ride in a line, with a lead who knows the bends and a tail who can handle breakdowns. Every hour, a 10-minute break ensures no aching backs, only steady wheels.

Ajay narrates an experience of riding to Chandratal the mesmerising lake in Himachal Pradesh. With the temperature dropping to minus seven degrees Censius, the bikes almost froze. Yet, what kept the riders warm is not just gear, but camaraderie – jokes, laughter and old memories shared over the communicator that connects them within a km's range.

From a biker's diary

Safety gear is mandatory

For Vinay Balikai, 46, owner of a group of automobile companies, the biking journey began with short trips across Karnataka. What started as rides to Vijayapura and Sirsi soon expanded into cross-country expeditions.

He too, rides in a group. Their rules are clear - no riding if even a single safety accessory is missing, no overtaking and no over-exertion. Every member wears a helmet, jacket, gloves, shoes, knee and elbow guards - safety is top priority.

Making the most of tech

Another avid biker is Ram Mallya, an entrepreneur. While high-end bikes today come fully loaded, he points out that touring bikes need additional accessories such as fog lights, while cruiser bikes only require essentials like saddle bags and protective gear.

For him, riding gear is non-negotiable. Technology also plays a major role in his rides - GPS mounts, camera stands and lightweight, yet expensive, accessories. "The lighter the accessory, the higher the price," he says, citing the example of a full carbon-fibre helmet that costs anywhere between Rs 50,000 and Rs 2 lakhs.

Mallya also uses a Sena Radio Communicator which connects up to 10 riders in a mesh network, ensuring seamless group communication.

LEISURE

Beetle Bailey

GOOD JOB, ZERO. YOUR RIFLE LOOKS SPOTLESS
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I SHOWER WITH IT EVERY DAY
GREG + MORT WALKER
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4/18

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CYTIH

RBOUR

NZSAAT

GDSEIT

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @Play-Jumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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Answers: The tabby watched the robins from his spot by the window, which to him was the — CATBIRD SEAT

ITCHY BURRO STANZA DIGEST

HITORI-111

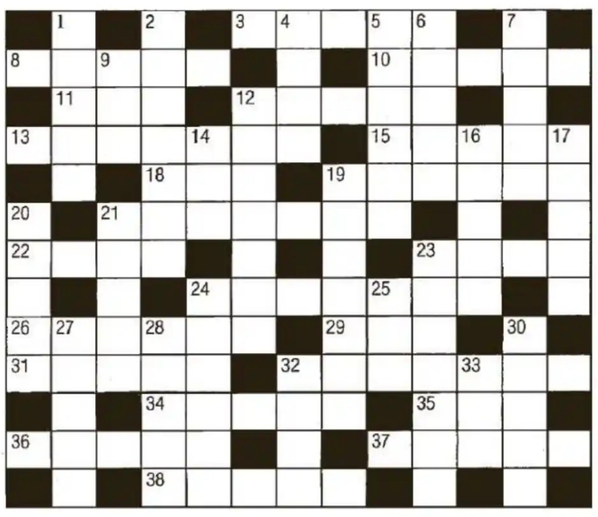
2	5	2	4	7	1	2	2
5	7	8	2	4	5	3	1
6	6	3	7	2	7	8	7
7	4	2	5	6	8	2	3
2	2	4	6	6	8	5	3
6	2	2	7	3	4	2	5
3	3	2	8	2	5	7	6
6	3	7	1	5	6	6	2

SOLUTION for HITORI-111

■	6	■	5	1	7	3	■
6	7	5	■	8	2	■	3
5	■	4	3	7	■	2	6
■	5	8	■	6	4	■	2
3	2	■	6	5	■	4	7
■	8	7	2	■	3	6	■
1	3	■	4	2	8	7	5
2	■	1	7	4	■	5	■

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 112



EASY

ACROSS
3 Coagulates (5)
8 Brimless cap (5)
10 Frolics (5)
11 Star (3)
12 Street urchin (5)
13 Baseball term (4,3)
15 Call on (5)
18 Regret (3)
19 Mediterranean island (6)
21 Citrus fruit (7)
22 Genuine (4)
23 Savant (4)
24 Middle (7)
26 Subsides (6)
29 Bad actor (3)
31 Lowest point (5)
32 Plant (7)
34 Jockey (5)
35 Vehicle (3)
36 Conceals (5)
37 Jacket part (5)
38 End of life (5)

DOWN
1 Broom of twigs (5)
2 Army officer (7)
4 Thin (4)
5 Petty details (6)
6 Of sound (5)
7 Month (5)
9 Spirit (3)
12 Estimates (7)
14 Groove (3)
16 Rope-making fibre (5)
17 Sorts (5)
19 Stifle (7)
20 Grumble (5)
21 Cold dish (5)
23 Tea urn (7)
24 Colour (6)
25 Torn cloth (3)
27 Fundamental (5)
28 Weary (5)
30 School punishment (5)
32 Superlative of good (4)
33 Doze (3)

CRYPTIC

ACROSS
3 Container of some of one's vital personal possessions (5)
8 Addictive thing to wear? (5)
10 A charming companion with wit (5)
11 Subcutaneous incision? (3)
12 Senior citizens are relatively so (5)
13 It helps enhance viewers' appearance (7)
15 Start returning by tube a lot (5)
18 Concealed the hideous part (3)
19 Being suitably seated can make a person calm (6)
21 Gets back from uncle's, perhaps (7)
22 In play, it's distinguishable from iron, of course (4)
23 Mix up the porridge? (4)
24 Name the deviantTory to ruin (7)
26 Inclined to make music in a vehicle (6)
29 A meaty role would probably suit him (3)
31 Giant canned potato centre (5)
32 Firmly joins me in scent production (7)
34 He teaches less than the truth, perhaps, about love (5)
35 The woman taking father's part (3)
36 By the revenue man, evidently (5)
37 Two chaps with their own academy? (5)
38 It isn't quite the real me! (5)

DOWN
1 Parrot giving a masterly imitation of a crow? (5)
2 Are such battles far-flung? (7)
4 Haul around in a dance (4)
5 Vegetables from abroad? (6)
6 Fed up with shifting dirt out of the way (5)
7 A good boy it's possible to scorn? (5)
9 It's mostly busy in the rush hour (3)
12 Told to be tidy (7)
14 One I would help (3)
16 Cricket crazy? (5)
17 A lad to try out with hesitation? (5)
19 Give more than generous cover (7)
20 Cheat misguided twits (5)
21 To rob atrociously is simply inhuman (5)
23 In a way, women put their heart into the show! (7)
24 Reveal what is obtainable from Dundee (6)
25 Charge an artist a thousand! (3)
27 I call for a change of colour (5)
28 Father of the Latin scholar? (5)
30 The odd street light? (5)
32 Calmly collected (4)
33 Marshal who lost some money? (3)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 112

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 3, Chest 8, Habit 10, Wit-CH 11, Cut 12, Older 13, Mascara 15, D-ebut (rev.) 18, Hid 19, Sedate 21, Redeems 22, Wood 23, Stir 24, Destroy 26, Sl-Op-ed 29, Ham 31, Ti-ta-n 32, Ce-ments 34, Tut-O-r 35, Her 36, Tax-Ed 37, Roy-Al 38, Realm.
DOWN: 1, MA-caw 2, Pitched 4, Hula 5, Swedes 6, Tir-E-d 7, Scout 9, Bus 12, Ordered 14, A-I'd 16, Batty 17, T-er-ry 19, Smother 20, Twist 21, Robot 23, S-ome-how 24, Denude 25, RA-M 27, Lilac 28, Pater 30, St.-ray 32, Cool 33, Ney.

EASY
ACROSS: 3, Clots 8, Beret 10, Romps 11, Sun 12, Gamin 13, Home run 15, Visit 18, Rue 19, Sicily 21, Satsuma 22, Real 23, Sage 24, Central 26, Abates 29, Ham 31, Nadir 32, Begonia 34, Rider 35, Van 36, Hides 37, Label 38, Death.
DOWN: 1, Bescm 2, General 4, Lean 5, Trivia 6, Sonic 7, April 9, Rum 12, Guesses 14, Rut 16, Sisal 17, Types 19, Smother 20, Groan 21, Salad 23, Samovar 24, Cerise 25, Rag 27, Basic 28, Tired 30, Lines 32, Best 33, Nap.

DH DECCAN HERALD
Wknd. FASHION

Keep your feet dry to keep fungal infections away during the wet months

FOOT NOTE

WEEKEND LIFESTYLE FEATURE

RIGHT FOOT FORWARD

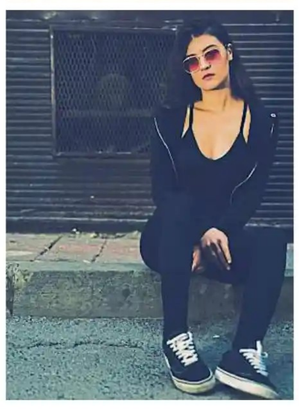
Bengaluru's monsoon is as joyous as it is unpredictable. A sudden downpour can turn the city into mazes of puddles within minutes. That's why picking the right footwear is about more than just style - it's about staying practical, dry, and comfortable while still looking good.

QUICK-DRY SANDALS

Lightweight rubber sandals are perfect for days of passing showers. They dry within minutes, protect feet from staying damp and are easy to rinse off after muddy walks. Unlike leather or fabric footwear, they won't stain or trap odour. Pick them in bright colours to lift your mood and add a splash of personality to grey afternoons.

Foot **Ware**

Waterproof sneakers



Can't give up sneakers? Go for water-resistant pairs in treated canvas or coated synthetics. They not only keep your feet dry but also offer extra grip on wet pavements. Given their versatility they match with everything - jeans, joggers and dresses - making them ideal for both work and casual outings. Choose darker shades to avoid water marks and keep your style worry-free.

Slip-on loafers

Officegoers can rely on synthetic loafers, which combine style with practicality. The closed-toe design shields from splashes, and the synthetic build ensures they don't remain damp all day like leather shoes. Pair them with ankle-length trousers for a sharp monsoon-friendly look. Bonus - they're lightweight, easy to carry and can double as a semi-formal option for after-work outings.

ANKLE RAINBOOTS

Short gumboots are no longer just countryside gear - they've evolved into urban fashion staples. Perfect for wading through puddle-strewn streets, ankle-length rainboots keep your feet dry without the bulk of knee-high versions. Today's designs are flexible, lightweight and stylish. If you commute a lot, these will be your rainy-day armour.

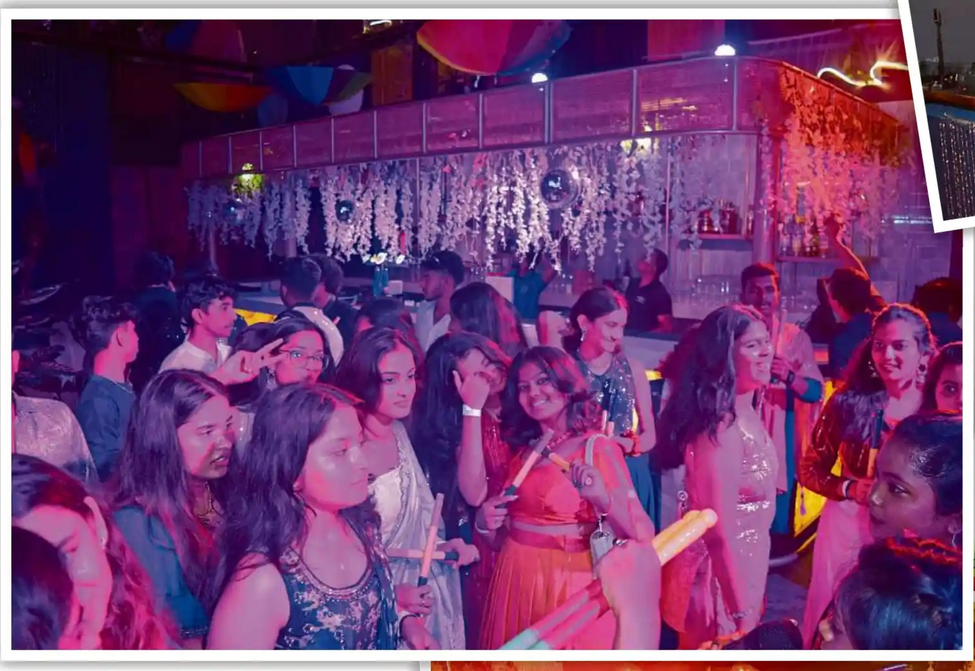
SLIDES FOR COMFORT

When comfort wins over everything else, slides are your safest bet. Made from quick-dry material, they're easy to slip on, rinse and reuse. Ideal for running errands or casual strolls, they keep your feet breezy even after sudden showers. Pair them with moisture-resistant socks if you want added warmth. Functional, yet trendy, slides are a go-to for Bengaluru's unpredictable showers.

Trend **Talk**

Fake wedding, real fun... a party trend catching on. **Prerna Malhotra** checks out this trend in the city's social circuit

Wedding wows!



'A big fat (fake) wedding' party hosted by Thanush S Gowda, Ibrahim Jidda and Arjun Nag at SOKO House of Commons at Mysuru.

Bengaluru's party scene has always been a conversation starter. From laid-back sundowners on rooftops to all-night techno marathons, and from 'run' parties to early morning coffee, the city thrives on an ever-evolving social scene. The latest addition making waves? The fake wedding.

Imagine that you dress up in a glittering lehenga or sharply tailored sherwani, layer on the jewellery, experiment with bold hairstyles and make-up, and dance your heart out to Bollywood wedding hits - all without the pressure of an actual marriage. There's no nervous couple at a mantap, no priest chanting mantras, and no family drama in the background. Instead, it's just pure celebration, where the 'bride' and 'groom' are usually friends play-acting for the evening, and every guest is in on the fun.

The party concept mirrors the real deal - mehendi-style gatherings, sangeet-like dance-offs, choreographed entrances, even vows (often hilariously written) - but the stakes? Zero! Think of it as part performance art, part costume party and part satire on the 'Big Fat Indian Wedding'.

So, why are Bengaluru's Gen Z and young millennials hooked onto this trend? For one, it reflects their appetite for light-hearted fun and love of being casual. "We all love the grandeur of Indian weddings - the outfits, music and food. But many of us don't relate to the pressure of marriage itself," says Devanshi Jain, a model and wellness experience curator, who recently attended a fake wedding in Indiranagar. "This way, we get the best of both worlds."

It also makes for perfect social media content. Instagram stories are flooded with clips of mock brides and grooms, baraat-style dance processions, and over-the-top 'wedding photography' where everyone is dressed to the nines. These moments are staged, but the joy looks anything but fake.

Event curators are starting to take note too. A few boutique planners in Bengaluru have begun offering themed decor and packages for those wanting to host their own mock wedding. From hiring DJs who specialise in wedding music to setting up buffet spreads with chaats and mocktails, the concept is turning into a viable new niche.

"Gen Z weddings are turning into cultural playgrounds - food trucks, fusion menus, live music and immersive zones are replacing the standard banquet style. It's about curating an experience rather than just hosting an event," says Ankit Agrawal, an events and food curator. "They are less about rituals and more about experiences. From curated food pop-ups to Instagram-worthy decor, couples are redefining celebrations with a mix of tradition and individuality."

But beneath the humour lies a subtle commentary. With sky-high wedding budgets and growing skepticism about traditional timelines, these fake weddings are Gen Z's playful rebellion. They parody societal expectations while still honouring the spirit of togetherness. "It's like a shaadi without the stress," quips Meghana Sharma, a senior analyst. "No aunties asking you when you're next, no family drama - just friends, music and laughter."

Of course, not everyone is on board. Some argue it trivialises a deeply cultural institution. But for many young urbanites, that's missing the point. Fake weddings aren't about mocking tradition - they're about reimagining joy in a way that feels authentic to their generation.

In a city where brunches and themed nights come and go, fake weddings might just be the most uniquely Gen Z phenomenon yet.

A balance of tone, texture and tailoring make for glamorous monochrome outfits, writes **Prasad Bidapa**

Monochrome ensembles grab attention without screaming for it

Style **File**

Monochromatic evening wear - where you dress head-to-toe in a single hue - is a definition of quiet sophistication. This timeless approach to fashion relies on simplicity, but the impact is anything but subtle. Whether at a formal gala, a black-tie wedding, or a red-carpet affair, monochromatic dressing makes a powerful style statement with minimal effort.

One of the most celebrated advantages of this style is its ability to elongate the body. A single, uninterrupted colour draws the eye vertically, creating the illusion of height and a streamlined silhouette. For those who want to appear taller and leaner, this is a foolproof fashion trick that works wonders.

Beyond height, monochrome outfits create visual harmony. Unlike multi-toned ensembles that segment the body and risk appearing cluttered, a monochromatic look offers continuity. It crafts a clean, modern line that flatters the form while exuding effortless grace. The result is a poised, confident presence that commands attention without screaming for it.

What makes this style even more appealing is its versatility and timelessness. A monochrome ensemble can be adapted across decades, trends and seasons. It allows creative freedom within a single palette - especially when you incorporate rich textures such as velvet, silk or crepe. These variations bring depth and character to the look, ensuring it never feels flat or monotonous.

To pull off this style with finesse, a few thoughtful details can make all the difference. First, choose a colour that compliments you - be it jewel tones, soft pastels or classic neutrals. Second, play with layering different textures within the same hue to create visual interest. Third, pay close attention to tailoring - the power of monochrome lies in its clean lines, which demand impeccable fit. Finally, accentuate with a single bold accessory - perhaps a sculptural cuff, a standout clutch or dramatic earrings to elevate the ensemble.

Ultimately, monochromatic evening wear is more than a trend - it's a style philosophy rooted in elegance, simplicity and precision. With the right balance of tone, texture and tailoring, this look can transform you into the epitome of quiet glamour. Whether you prefer understated minimalism or dramatic flair, the monochrome path offers endless possibilities to make a memorable impression.

Model: Pariso
Designer: Vaishnavi

Model: Nikhil Hariwansh
Designer: Geisha Designs

Model: Naisha
Designer: Vaishnavi

EVENT: Palladium presents Walk of Luxury with Prasad Bidapa
Photographer: Akash Sharma
Stylist: Anil Hosamani

DH DECCAN HERALD
Wknd. VARIETY

Carry clothes and accessories based on the climate at your destination and sort of travel you are planning

PACK RIGHT

WEEKEND LIFESTYLE FEATURE

VACATION TIME

The festival season is a time for vacations too. Long weekends to the annual break from work, this is a time when many plan their travels. It serves you well to begin your festival season holiday planning early. Choosing dates to destinations, a meticulous plan will ensure a pleasant and memorable holiday.

PLAN YOUR ITINERARY

Once you choose your destination, get an itinerary in place. You can pack in a lot more sightseeing and entertainment if you have a well-planned itinerary in place. You will not lose precious time researching and planning your holiday activities once there. It helps to read about your destination in advance.

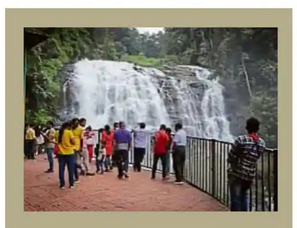
Travel **Smart**

Budget first

The key to all travel planning lies in the budget. Arrive at your budget first. Whether it's a 'travel now and pay later' sort of scheme or payment upfront, factor in all costs. Set aside a contingency fund in case of cost escalation or some unforeseen expense arising later. Base all decisions such as location and duration on the budget.

Choose destination

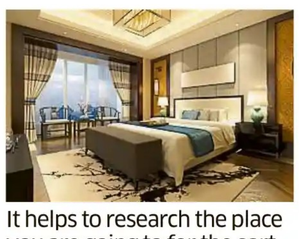
This involves a family or friends' meet. Base the decision on destination/s on your goals from the vacation – sightseeing, adventure, exploring a new culture etc. Go to a place no one among the group has gone to before. This way, everyone gets a similar experience. The budget also has a bearing on the destination.



PICK DATES IN ADVANCE

Arriving at the travel dates in advance helps in getting the bookings you would want and even the best prices on tickets. Planning your holiday in advance helps you prepare with a fixed timeline in mind. There won't be a rushed departure that takes away some of the pleasure of a happy vacation.

BOOK YOUR STAY



It helps to research the place you are going to for the sort of accommodation you will be comfortable in. When you book in advance, you also stand to get a better rate. Take some cues from people who have been to the place you are going to and check into a hotel you will be comfortable in. Never leave this to the last minute.

Transport bookings

It is always good to plan your transport in advance. If you are planning to use a cab for your sightseeing at the destination, it is advisable to research the location and identify a dependable service provider. Ensure you have all your commuting such as airport transfer and local sightseeing sorted out in advance. It will save you precious time.

Gifts with that festive touch

PIC COURTESY: PINK KNOTS

The festive season is on. **Shilpi Madan** puts together a list of gifts your loved ones will never forget

Festive **Cheer**

JAYANTHI MADHUKAR

The dhols have been filling the air, mogra and marigolds are adorning doorways, and the Ganesh Chaturthi festival is still on with the immersions happening. The year's major festival season has begun and visits to homes are must-dos.

Here are some gifts that your loved ones will always remember:

Traditional touch

This is just what your loved ones with a sweet tooth would want. A kesar modak brings in a rich touch of saffron, and a fusion of motichoor laddoo in a modak format rolls in the motichoor modak. Try the local variations in steamed modaks with coconut and mawa fillings, the date modaks and jaggery modaks for a touch of sweet specials.

Rainbow colours dance their way through the traditional sweets in pistachio, strawberry and mango flavours. Find your fix.

Long-lasting offerings

Move beyond the sweets and savouries and go in for a few wellness-tipped goodies and home accessories. From beaded lotus-shaped coasters to table mats to torans, tiny ghunghroos and cymbals as puja essentials, and trays, make the most of dry flower inserts and leaves to bring in a festive rhythm.

Arrange dry fruits in glamorous keepsake boxes that can multitask beautifully as storage in the puja room, bringing in a touch of traditional with contemporary.

Limited edition specials

Try festive cheesecakes with an Indian mithai heartbeat. The gulab jamun boondi, rose petal covered pistachio laddoos, kesari kalakand tipped with varak and edible flowers, and bento-styled lemon tea cakes in the form of a modak are gaining popularity as they celebrate the two-in-one format with favourites rolled into festivities.

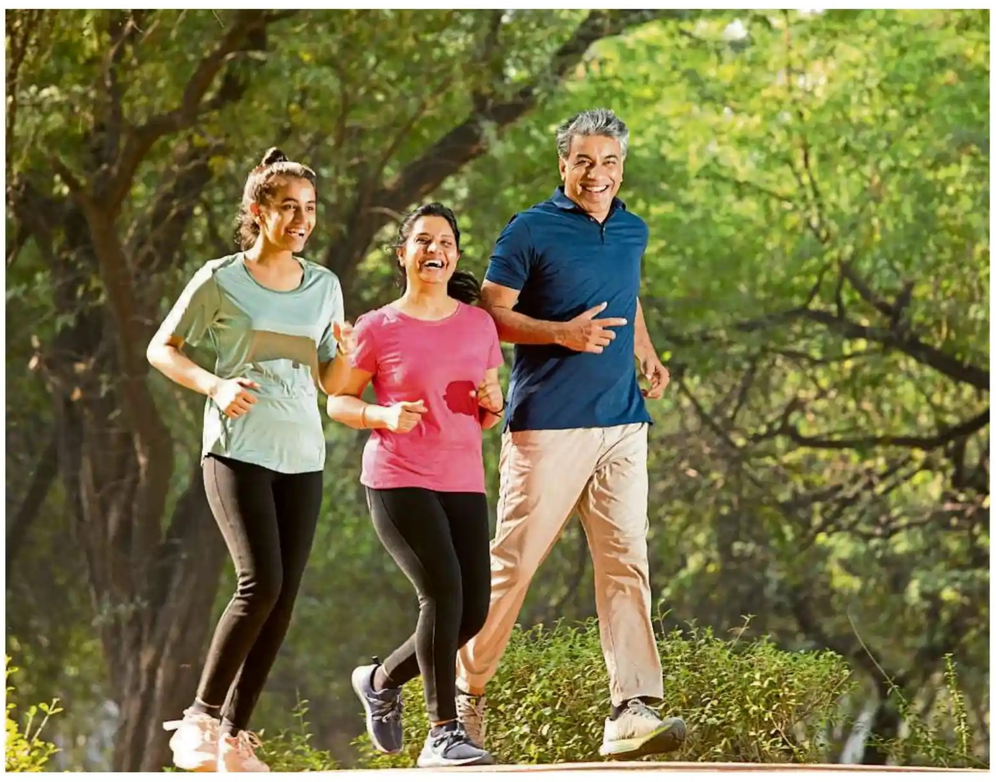
Go for banoffee pie kaju katli and tiramisu modaks, or for the polar shots – make way for the ice cream modaks!

PICS COURTESY: PINK KNOTS

Don't let the years get past you

Shilpi Madan has a simple guide to healthy living and slow aging

Fighting **Fit**



Physiological ageing begins at 25. If you take good care of your skin, it holds you in good stead as the years roll on. Make a sunscreen a mandatory part of your skincare routine during your early years, as in your mid 20s the ravages begin to set in to glimmer later.

Ensure you clean your face every night, and wash your feet as well. Personal hygiene keeps scalp colonisers and body odour at bay.

Hang in there

A 20-minute walk holds no meaning. Your body starts burning fat after 20 minutes of slipping into a workout. A minimum of 45 minutes is needed for a brisk walk, with core engaged, to yield desired results. Likewise, a 45-minute workout thrice a week is recommended in addition to your health supplements.

Alternatively, you can swim or play pickleball, cycle or jog – take your pick of any sport that brings out the sweat. Dedicated exercise keeps those happy hormones going with gusto.

A weighty issue

As you age, bone density dips. Nothing can compensate for weight training. Lift those dumbbells or use your own body weight in free-hand exercises to build the muscle mass. You can get in the flexibility through yoga and dance, but muscle power is what is needed big time.

A challenging routine raises your basal metabolic rate, and makes you burn calories even while resting. Just for your information, lugging groceries and lifting bucketfuls of machine-washed clothes doesn't count as exercise. It is movement.

Make it count

Do not consume calcium and iron supplements together – one hinders the absorption of the other. Get your first ingestion right with warm water and lime. Always be seated when you drink water. Avoid teaming fruits with your meals, lend a gap between consumption.

Make space for a raw salad before you begin eating your food. Drinking water post meals, with a gap of 20 minutes, leads to better digestion and calorie burn. Streamline the carb consumption in keeping with your circadian rhythm.

Eat fresh

Nothing succeeds like home-cooked food. Study labels of foodstuff you buy for hidden lines in cane sugar and extra sodium. This includes the fizzy drinks and canned juices, so avoid shopping on an empty stomach.

Make small portions – try eating from a bowl to regulate quantity. Eat fresh, local, seasonal foods every day.

Pinch of salt

What's the one crucial ingredient in most recipes? It's salt, the magic ingredient that makes food taste more intensely of itself. There are many varieties of salt available. For the traditionally made salt, location and technique are pivotal. Table salt, the most used salt, is sourced from salt mines and refined. Most minerals are removed.

Main categories and types of salts:

Kosher salt: Identified by large crystals and is perfect for cooking meats and fish.

Common sea salt: Industrially produced from seawater, it doesn't usually contain iodine but has some trace minerals. It's good for adding directly to stews and soups.

Traditional sea salt: Made by traditional methods like evaporating seawater, either in the sun or by boiling. This salt does not have uniform crystals and is used as finishing salt to impart flavour.

Himalayan black salt: This sulfurous salt is a volcanic rock salt from the Himalayas. It is used for specific dishes only because of its intense flavour.

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WANTED BDA SITES Anjanapura- Arkavathi Banashankari 6th.Stage, Vishweswaraiah, Kempegowda, Dr.Shivaramkaranth Layout. Contact: SAPTHAGIRI. 9036360366.

Vishweshwariah Layout

BUYING/ SELLING 20x30,30x40,40x60 50x80 BDA sites at VISHVESHWARAIAH LAYOUT, BSK 6th-stage. Contact: 9844533371/ 9341733480

Resedential/ Commercial

Multiple Locations

WANTED RESIDENTIAL Property 1200 to 10,000sft in Jayanagar, Basavanagudi, Chamrajpet, JP Nagar, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Koramangala and Indiranagar. Call Verna Developers, Barton Centre, MG Road. 9916310226/ 9353128035. (Brokers Excuse)

Industrial & Factory

Multiple Locations

WANTED CITY Limits Private Industrial Land from 10,000sq.ft. upto 2 Acres and KIADB Land measuring 10,000sq.ft. to 4 Acres in Bangalore Urban & Rural District. Call Verna Developers, Barton Center, MG Road, BLR. 9353128035/ 9916310226.

Tumkur Road

"WANTED KIADB 20,000 Sqft Industrial Shed/ space at Vasanthanarasapura Industrial Area, 1st Phase, Tumkur. 9008725029"

General

REPUTED COMPANY seeking warehouse space in Bangalore:- Space: 20,000 to 2,00,000sqft- Location: in and around Bangalore If you're a property owner or broker with suitable warehouse space. Call: 9739990666, 7760635050

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Water Proofing

LEAKAGE... LEAKAGE... Old/New Building, Sump, Bathroom, Wallcrack, Skylight, Terrace Waterproofing done by New Technology- 9880916988

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Accommodation Available

Commercial

14000 K sq.ft. basement plus three floors commercial building is available for rent jayanagar 7 th block suitable for office tutorials software or diagnostic center contact 9845010485

COMMERCIAL PREMISES For rent on 9th Floor, Mittal Tower 445 sqft, Contact:- 7208012111/ 8892051858.

BUSINESS

Business Offers

Finance

MSME LOANS Available for Any Startup Companies,Any Existing Companies NOTE:Also one Approved Loan Available Contact-7204995189

PERSONAL

Change of Name

I SAMIULLA MOHAMMED SAFIULLA Resding at No. 8, 1st floor, Anjanadri Layout, near Reliance School behind Ali Masjid Rachenahalli Tanisandra, Bangalore-560077, have changed my name to MOHAMMED SAIFULLA vide affidavit dated 28/08/2025, before notary S. Jayanna, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, **Zuber Ahmed Khan & Heena Kouser S,** R/at No.16/2-1, 1st Floor, 3rd Main, 2nd Cross, Behind AK Ashram, Matadahalli, R.T. Nagar, Bengaluru-560032, have changed our minor son's name from **SHAAD AHMED KHAN** to **SAFWAAN AHMED KHAN** vide affidavit dated 28-08-2025 before notary Sivakumara M.N., Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **C S Lakshmaiah,** residing at # 370, 6th Cross, Pragathipura, BSK 2nd Stage, Bangalore 560070, have changed my name to **C S LAKSHMAN** vide affidavit registered with Sl. No. 105 in , Page 81, Vol No. 03 dated 22.08.2025 before notary L Puttaraju.,Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SYED MOHAMED AFAQ BADRI,** residing at No. 28, 2nd Floor, 6th Cross, 8th Main Road, Gupta Layout, Jayanagar 3rd Block, Bengaluru-560041, have changed my name to **MOHAMMED AFAQ BADRI S/o Badruddin Mohammed** vide affidavit dated 28-08-2025 sworn before advocate and notary H.S. Dharma Prasad, Bengaluru.

Lost

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the General Public that I, **T.S.PRAJWAL,** S/o **Mr.T.R.Swamy,** has lost / misplaced the file containing the original documents i.e., Sale Deed, Allotment letter, Possession certificate and BDA application with respect to the Residential property No. 376/A, Hosuru-Sarjapura Road Layout, Sector – III, BBMP Ward No.174, Bangalore.
The report of these lost documents has been lodged at Bangalore City Police station, Bangalore on 23.08.2025, vide FIR Lost Report No.1766563/2025. If, any person is in the possession of the above mentioned original documents, i.e., Sale Deed, Allotment letter, Possession certificate and BDA application, kindly do get in touch with the undersigned.
T.S.PRAJWAL
S/o MR.T.R.SWAMY,
No.11, Sri Ranga Nilaya,
1st Cross, Achaiah Shetty Layout,
Sadashivanagar, Bangalore-80.
Mobile: 9845978757
Place:Bangalore, Date:28-08-2025

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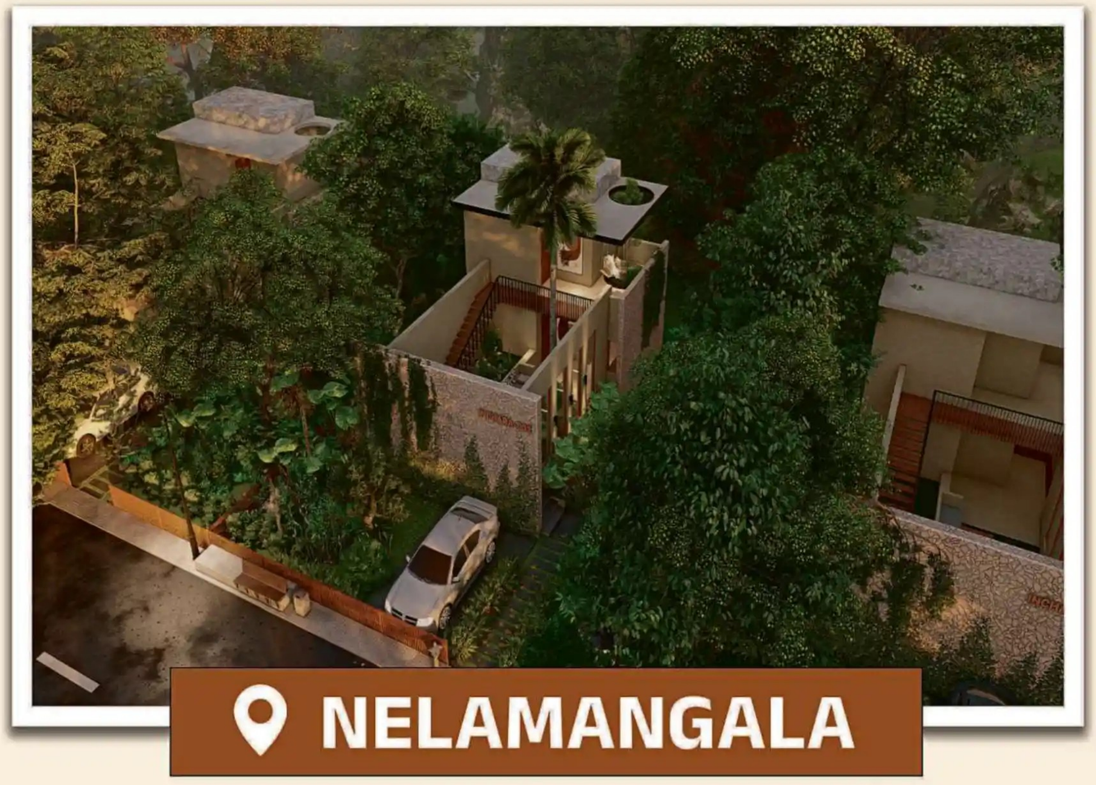

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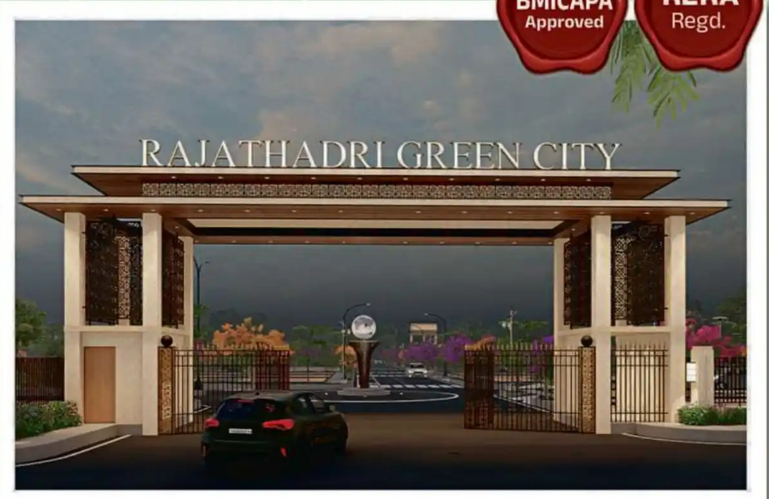

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3BHK
~~68.5 Lakhs~~
53.9 lakhs

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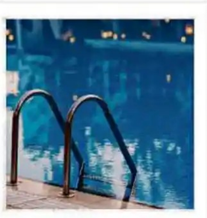

Swimming Pool

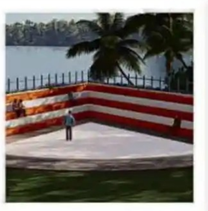
Lawn Tennis Court

Temple

Jogging & Cycling Track

Basketball Court

Recreational Parks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